

ADELAIDE INSTITUTE

PO Box 3300
Adelaide 5067

Australia

Mob: 61+401692057

Email: info@adelaideinstitute.org

Web: <http://www.adelaideinstitute.org>

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Gaza: Lord Prescott accused of 'trivialising Holocaust' Former deputy prime minister criticised by Jewish groups after describing Gaza as a 'concentration camp'



By [Matthew Holehouse](#), Political Correspondent, 8:57AM BST 01 Aug 2014

Lord Prescott, the former Deputy Prime Minister, has been rebuked by the most senior body representing British Jews after likening Gaza to a concentration camp.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews said the comparison, made in the Labour peer's Sunday newspaper column, was "deeply offensive" and "trivialised the Holocaust."

It warned that "playing the Nazi card" in relation to Israel "scratches deep wounds by invoking painful collective memory of the Holocaust."

The Board called on Lord Bassam, the Labour chief whip in the Lords, to initiate misconduct proceedings against Lord Prescott.

It comes as a three-day ceasefire begins in Gaza following an intensive bombardment by Israeli armed forces.



Lord Prescott (PA)

Writing in the Sunday Mirror, Lord Prescott described the assault on Gaza as "so brutally disproportionate and so grossly indiscriminate that it makes it impossible not to view Israel's actions as war crimes."

He continued: "Israel's Iron Dome defence system easily intercepts missiles launched from Gaza. Three civilians have died from these primitive rockets, with 37 soldiers killed fighting Hamas. Compare that to the toll

in Gaza. Of the 1,000-plus to die, more than 80 per cent were civilians, mostly women and children.

But who is to say some of the other 20 per cent weren't innocent too? Israel brands them terrorists but it is acting as judge, jury and executioner in the concentration camp that is Gaza.

And Israel flouts international law by continuing to build illegal Jewish settlements. Why? Because it knows it can get away with it.

What happened to the Jewish people at the hands of the Nazis is appalling. But you would think those atrocities would give Israelis a unique sense of perspective and empathy with the victims of a ghetto.

In a letter to Lord Bassam, Vivian Wineman, the president of the Board, said the body regarded all deaths in the "emotive and polarising" conflict to be tragic but said politicians have a duty to be "cautious and responsible."

Comparing Gaza to a concentration camp and a ghetto is deeply offensive. The systematic and premeditated slaughter of millions in the Holocaust cannot in any way be compared to the conflict in Israel and Gaza. This kind of hyperbole is disingenuous and contributes to the deepening rift between communities in this country.

As a high profile Labour Peer, he has a duty to respect community cohesion, not to contribute to its decline. Through his remarks, Lord Prescott has trivialised the Holocaust, the most painful memory in Jewish history, and will undoubtedly encourage others to use such language.

The Body urged Lord Bassam to use "formal party processes to deal with such misconduct."

The row came as figures from the Community Security Trust showed anti-Semitic incidents are running at twice their normal level, with 130 in July.

Several councils, including Tower Hamlets, Bradford and Preston, have considered or are already flying the Palestinian flag in "solidarity" with the territory.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/labour/11005105/Gaza-Lord-Prescott-accused-of-trivialising-Holocaust.html>

[Emp.added by ed. AI.]

When reading the following article, remember that it rests on the premise that there was a systematic extermination of European Jewry in particular in homicidal gas chambers, something that Revisionists question, especially because this premise is legally protected in a number of European countries. Revisionists therefore ask: Why must an historical fact – its narrative – be legally protected, and not be open for debate as is any other historical event?

Self-Deception, Lies And Stupidity

Relevance of Hannah Arendt's "A Report On The Banality Of Evil" To Gaza

by HAMMAD SAID, JULY 28, 2014

"We want the nations of the world to know.....and they should be ashamed" Ben Gurion explaining rationale for Eichmann's trial [i]

"The triumph of the S.S demands that the tortured victim allow himself to be led to the noose without protesting, that he renounce and abandon himself to the point of ceasing to affirm his identity. They know that the system which succeeds in destroying its victim before he mounts the scaffold.....is incomparably the better for keeping the whole people in slavery"[ii]

Hannah Arendt (henceforth HA), philosopher, writer, academic of Jewish heritage, who studied under such luminaries as Karl Jaspers and Martin Heidegger in pre-war Germany, went to Jerusalem in 1961 to cover the trial of Eichmann, one of the actors in the Final Solution, for the New Yorker magazine. Her account of the trial regularly published in the magazine at the time, later became a basis for the book, "Eichmann In Jerusalem: A report on the banality of evil".

It is obvious from reading the book that HA's account of the trial in the book transcended the culpability of the single individual, and in fact implicated the whole of western society in the crimes committed.

HA's penetrating analysis in the book furnishes insights both into the mind of the perpetrators, and the overall societal mindset they were embedded in, which made these horrendous acts possible without any weight on their conscience. It provides a template for studying all such acts of barbarity by the organized and brute force of the state, with full complicity of the overwhelming population, against people who are made stateless either in the sense of being deprived of the state they had hitherto lived in or are forced to live as stateless wards of occupying power.

It is precisely the later scenario that we are confronted with in Gaza, where an occupying power is conducting a pogrom and slaughter of the stateless, defenseless and caged population under its occupation. It is true that the scale of murder in Gaza is not comparable to the manufacturing of death on industrial scale and with industrial efficiency as happened during Holocaust, the period dealt in the book, nevertheless there are certain elements of the current situation and wider Palestinian suppression which make the comparisons, and hence the insights, not totally irrelevant. This is borne out by none other than the granddaughter of Holocaust survivor herself, when protesting against FIDF (Friends Of IDF), she remarked in a choked voice that the reason she was there was that her grandparents taught her that "this should never happen to any other people again, whether Jews or not".

The elements of relevance are not only the unequal nature of the contest – with the most powerful army of the Middle East, backed to the hilt by the most sophisticated military might the world has ever seen (USA) arrayed against mainly defenseless population in

congested urban setting, with all paths of exit and ingress shut, hence unsuitable for protracted guerilla warfare) – but also the apparent complicity and almost cheerleading attitude of the populace of the oppressor and the invader in the conflict and its powerful backers and abettors in the western media and government. The fact that all this is happening in this age of global information, and it is almost impossible to avoid images of innocent children and women being blown to smithereens, hospitals and even morgues and graveyards bombed and destroyed, makes the complicity of the population or their indifferent silence, both in Israel and its main supporter United States and to lesser extent Western Europe, all the more criminal and callous. For one who has read HA's work, it is impossible not to see in this almost ubiquitous silence and complicity of the western seats of political and media power, echoes of what HA characterized as the "moral collapse of the respectable western society" in the face of irrefutable and hard to ignore evidence about mass murders happening close by. In Nazi Germany and its occupied and allied countries, the collapse manifested as "hear no evil, see no evil", averting of the face from the horror if it all, if you will, and here in the US in the Israeli-Palestinian context it manifests as knowingly arming the murderer to its teeth, and then providing the fig leaf of diplomatic support and biased media coverage to hide and obfuscate the deed both from the domestic and international audience.

It is remarkable that in spite of the huge difference in scale, the psychological and societal factors underlying the brutal onslaught of these declared racist regimes against their captive and largely defenseless populations bears close resemblance. Not only that, USA, without whose total and unconditional support Israel cannot carry out any of its criminal acts, bears many marks of institutional mind control and propaganda so eloquently exposed by HA in her book.

So here are the those elements delineated clearly in HA's expose of Nazi regime and its murderous acts that one finds reflected in the murderous acts of Israel and its main supporter, United States.

Self-Deception, Lies And Stupidity

"The German society of eighty million people had been shielded against reality and factuality by exactly the same means, the same self-deception, lies and stupidity that had now become ingrained in Eichmann's mentality" [iii]

"He was incapable of uttering a single sentence that was not a cliché"..HA on Eichmann [iv]

It has almost become a cliché to say that in this age of mass communication and social media, winning the media battle is almost as important as winning the actual, physical one. Nazis were the first to realize the importance of mass propaganda in a modern state, and

created one of the most effective propaganda machines the world had ever seen, which presided over a campaign of self-deception, lies, distortions, mind control of unprecedented effectiveness and magnitude. The underlying philosophy was to sway the people through grandiose lies and distortions, making them feel as part of something grand and big. Hence, they were told that it was a struggle for the "destiny of the German people", such as would pave the way for a thousand years Reich. As Himmler said that they were fighting a battle, which the future generations did not have to fight for another thousand years. For Hitler it was a struggle for the very soul of European civilization against the eastern barbarism, exemplified by Bolshevism. One finds almost parallel distortions and propaganda in Israeli official mythology of the "Promised Land", and they, Jews, being the rightful heirs of the land of Israel in spite of their almost two thousand years sojourn in the west. All this self-elevating and grandiose mythology goes hand in hand with demeaning Palestinian people as a historical fiction – for instance, when Netanyahu said that there had never been a Palestinian state, never been a Palestinian nation and they were just migrants from neighboring Arab countries. Both the mythology and distortion are critical to Zionist project, as one cannot be carried one without the other. And both require erecting a virtual, alternate reality, based on massive dismissal of actual history. But it must be admitted that there is crucial difference between totalitarian Nazi ideology and official Zionist one, at least in the way they operated in their respective bases. The Nazi totalitarianism obliterated all opposition to it and became the only acceptable narrative in the state, the Zionist narrative could never achieve that monopoly in Israel, and thanks to the courage and integrity of people like Uri Avenry and Levy Gideon, there is a counter narrative, not confined to some nooks or banished to concentration camps, but is expressed through very mainstream organs like Haaretz and other Jewish progressive groups.

But one of the greatest ironies of the whole conflict is that it is not in Israel, one of the main protagonists of the conflict, but in USA, its distant and arch supporter, that this propaganda based on lies, distortions and self-deception has met its total and unchallenged triumph yet. The success of this campaign is such that no less a person than the former President of the United States is forced to admit publicly that, "it is easier to criticize Israel in Israel than in the United States".

From Alan Dershowitz's fabrication of alternate history of Palestine (debunked by all serious scholarship on the subject) as an apology and defense of Israel and its peddling on all respectable US channels to the latest abominable rant "Israel has a right to defend herself" on Fox Channel, it is hard to imagine where to start when one considers the total complicity of US media in Israeli crimes. Just a recent episode in ABC's coverage of the Gaza bombing highlighted both distortion and stupidity. It was a clear distortion when a Palestinian home, with Palestinian woman clad in traditional Muslim head gear in front wailing, was shown as an Israeli woman whose home was destroyed by Hamas's rockets. But it also relies on the egregious ignorance and stupidity of the audience to mistake an obviously Palestinian woman for an Israeli one!

As far as the self-deception goes, it ranges from the ludicrous, "they hate us because of our liberties", to the insidious, as in the recent column in NY Times [\[v\]](#) where the writers have turned the logic on its head, making this preposterous claim that the reason US public supports Israel is because of the failure of Arab spring! Not because of what NY Times writes and CNN, FOX spews day in and day out, but because of the failure of Arab spring! In the annals of self-deception by the so called literati of any society, this has to have the pride of place!

It is not an understatement to say that all mainstream media channels in USA are reduced to a point where they have become mere conduits for the continuous regurgitating of official Israeli talking points, without taking Israeli apologists and official up on even the most obviously absurd ones. It seems that like Eichmann, they are incapable of thinking except in official clichés! Take for example, this oft repeated Israeli assertion, blurring the boundaries between sane and insane, that Hamas is using civilians as human shields or putting their rockets near the civilian places, as justification for the high civilian casualties. Forget the obvious fact of Gaza being one of the most densely populated areas in the world, forget even that the so called warning to crammed homes and shelters is given minutes before the real lethality if at all and there is neither place or time to run to, forget all that, and still should not a fair journalist challenge the Israeli position on the ground that the targeted population has no army, air force and navy to fight the mightiest army of the Middle East, and it is Israel which makes sure that not only they don't get any comparable weapons, but even the basic weapons to fight so that Israel does not have to find itself in this, in their own words, unenviable position of fighting an enemy indistinguishable from the civilians? Does any journalist try to raise the question as to what desperation the people would be reduced to, if they could be killed with almost impunity from thousands of feet above the ground, and they had no means of hitting back? It is morally bankrupt to even raise the question of Hamas using civilians without first asking how come they can't put tank against tank, a helicopter against helicopter and an aircraft against aircraft, and a uniformed soldier, armed to the hilt with modern gadgetry, against uniformed soldier. The reality and logic of the situation, obvious to any astute observer, is that it is not Hamas but on the contrary Israel which is using civilians, its own, for a human shield. It is so because with all the sophisticated weaponry that Israel possesses its soldiers can kill from a distance with almost no fear of being hit back except in very close combat situations that Israel religiously avoids, but the only way Palestinians in Gaza can retaliate is by firing inaccurate and primitive and almost toy like rockets indiscriminately into Israel, that has the probability of hitting only civilians, if at all, not soldiers. Hence the very nature of this asymmetric power equation dictates that when Hamas retaliates it can only do so by hitting the civilians, and Israel does everything in its power to maintain that asymmetry, depriving Hamas the capability of fighting on equal terms. It is like one party to a duel stealing the other party's pistols and then complaining that instead of firing shots they are throwing stones that can hit the bystanders!

The impact of all this media blitz in favor of Israel is that you can never ask an average American, who probably has a hard time recognizing Gaza on the map, about the current conflict without getting an automatic, almost knee jerk clichés about terrorism, destruction of Israel and her right to defend herself. The proof is in the pudding, and even Dr. Goebbels would have been envious of this efficacy of US media propaganda for Israel! It is after all he who famously said that a lie should be repeated often and with confidence and from the higher pulpit for it to be accepted as the truth. He has found the most loyal disciples of his craft in mainstream US media.

Dostoevsky, as HA pointed out in her book, recalled from his experience in Siberia that he never met a criminal there who was repentant of his crimes. HA offered an explanation for this in the self-re-enforcing closed environment of the gang the criminals were embedded in, which shielded them from contact with the reality. The American media is playing the same role of shielding American public from its culpability in Israelis crimes by embedding them in this reality created out of lies, half-truths, fabrications, and distortions.

Blaming The Victim

"Führer as promised the Jews a new homeland.....if you build there will be a roof over your heads. There is no water, the wells all around carry disease.....If you bore and find water, you will have water"[\[vii\]](#)

HA in her book tells the story of a German literary critic, Heinz Beckmann, who blamed a certain Jewish intellectual for deserting them at "the outbreak of barbarism", conveniently forgetting that he was expelled by the Nazis, and did not desert. From this minor example of self-serving and self-righteous attitude of Nazis to their more fictional characterizations of Jews as responsible for Germany's defeat in the Great war to their delusional beliefs of actually helping the Jews with forced emigrations, at least the Zionists, in their project of "finding the ground under their feet", as Eichmann puts it, it was always the victim who has brought it upon himself. In a similar vein, in the eyes of Israelis it is always the Palestinians who were responsible for their ghetto like existence in Gaza, and for the bombs killing their babies. Just a sample of it was presented the other day, when an Israeli Ambassador to US, Mr. Ron Dermer, was talking to a radio show host and claimed that the reason for shortages in Gaza was that Palestinians used all the resources – millions of dollars – for building tunnels! Given that Mr. Dermer's government was involved in preventing through violence even a peaceful flotilla carrying food and medicines to Gazans let alone the brutal siege, it requires monumental audacity of shamelessness to make such an assertion. But he was assured that even if he had asserted that Palestinians were directly getting aid from Martians and Anti-Christ in league to destroy Israel, he would not be called upon by the interviewer! So, it is the victim, it is the Palestinians who are offering their children as sacrifices so that they could "enjoy" the sight of Israelis being humiliated in the court of world opinion in the comfort of their tunnels!

It is the psychological and logical compulsion of a society based on notions of racial exclusivity and superiority to regard the other, especially if the others

are the inhabitants of the land they want to grab, as untermensch, as lesser humans. Nazis's policy of lebensraum, the land in the east, had to regard Slavs as untermensch as the Zionist policy of land grab and theft from Palestinians has to regard them as not "people like us"!

Moral Collapse Of The Respectable Society

"Dr. Servatius, I assume you made a slip of the tongue when you said that killing by gas was a medical matter"[\[vii\]](#)

"The net effect of this language system was not to keep these people ignorant of what they were doing, but to prevent them from equating it with their old, normal knowledge of murder and lies"[\[viii\]](#)

"Yes, he had a conscience, and his conscience functioned in the expected way for about four weeks, whereupon it began to function the other way around"[\[ix\]](#)

"From the accumulated evidence one can only conclude that conscience as such has apparently got lost in Germany"[\[x\]](#)

For me the most telling image of the current Gaza massacre is not one of death and destruction, of carnage, and torn limbs, and mutilated bodies of children. It is one of the regular Israeli onslaughts in last few years, and we have become numbed to these sights and they are telling us the same tragic story with only faces changed. For me the most telling image is a peaceful, quiet image, almost serene, but containing within it the bottomless depths of the "heart of darkness". It is an image of Israelis, men, children and even toddlers, in an almost picnic like atmosphere with drinks and barbecue watching the carnage unfolding before their eyes from the safety of their perch on the mountaintop. One Israeli critic of Zionism in a remarkable address called the last invasion of Gaza by Israel at the peak time of children's getting out of their schools in the streets as the darkest day in the history of Judaism. No sir, I respectfully disagree. The darkest day in the history of Judaism was the day when a few people, no matter the numbers, flaunted their inhumanity in broad daylight, and were accepted by the majority either tacitly by staying quiet about it, or outrightly condoning it. This is the dangerous moral collapse which HA was alluding to, which Nazism, because of its creed of racism and naked power, brought about in the "respectable European society". And God knows what monstrosities it led to. In HA's incisive analysis, Eichmann was not a monster, neither was he legally insane, nor he was oblivious of the consequences of his actions. He was quite ordinary and commonplace, and hence the banality of it all. But he was caught in an ideology and the system that made him accept and commit those unspeakable horrors with relative equanimity. The respectable opinion, according to his testimony, never questioned or challenged his conscience. It was normally human to be inhuman in that atmosphere. He was embedded in a system which made such humanity almost seemed normal; in fact, alleviated it to the level of duty. That is what HA meant by the moral collapse of the "respectable western society". It is a version of this moral collapse that was on display on that mountain top the other day: the moral collapse of "respectable Israeli "society.

Equally telling and matching the moral collapse of the ones doing the killings and their immediate cheerleaders was the moral collapse of the distant ones

giving them the weapons and all the support of "soft power" they required. The moral bankruptcy on the top of hill in Israel was matched by moral bankruptcy on top of another hill, Capitol hill, namely, the shameless unanimous passing of resolution 480 by Senate, giving unconditional and full support to Israel's Gaza offensive and yes, believe it or not, calling upon Hamas to separate itself from the unity government! Those who always blamed Hamas for its violence and non-acceptance of Israel, were baying for its blood when it officially, albeit in an indirect way, it did renounce violence by joining and accepting PA's leadership which has recognized Israel's right to exist! All those senators, without exception, with all their pretensions and protestations of peace were at that moment of endorsement of naked aggression were standing there themselves naked, without clothes, in their obeisance to the amoral God of power. Those champions of fairness and fair play and justice, Elizabeth Warrens, Al Franken, Bernie Sanders of the world, totally exposed, with the whole world knowing, if they cared to look, that the only difference between them and John Boehners, Lindsay Grahams, Sarah Palins of the world is only in the choice of which Gods they prostrate themselves to. It is a difference of calculation not of principles. So much for the moral left in the US political system!

Influential media and government, there is nowhere one can turn to for any justice or even fair hearing in the case. Is this the moral collapse of the society we are witnessing here? Yes, there is, God bless her, Amy Goodman, there is this towering figure of Noam Chomsky, almost like an old Testament prophet, there is Chris Hedges and so on. Yes, there is a growing BDS movement and increasing awareness of Palestinian cause in Europe, and there is a strong anti-Zionist strand within Israel, and these are signs that prevent one from total despair or do they? Probably no society ever in history has totally collapsed morally, since even in the depths of it there is a Dietrich Bonhoeffer, there is a Lichentberg (a Catholic priest who joined the Jews in their journey east and perished with them). Perhaps, the moral collapse of the greatest supporter and abettor of the crimes of Israel is not that deep or total. Perhaps!

Moral Collapse of the Victim

"Jewish Council Of Elders were informed by Eichman or his men of how many Jews were need to fill each train, and they made out the list of deportees" [xi]

"There can be no doubt that without the cooperation of the victims, it would hardly have been possible for a few thousand people ..to liquidate many hundreds of thousands of people" [xii]

"And the acceptance of privileged categories.....had been the beginning of the moral collapse of respectable Jewish society" [xiii]

"It was a general practice to allow certain exceptions in order to be able to main general rule all the more easily" [xiv]

"Theresienstadt, from the beginning, we designed by Heydrich to serve as a special ghetto for certain privileged categories of Jews" [xv]

One of the lesser talked and known aspect of Eichmann's trial is how it reveals quiet poignantly the victims of the Holocaust turning, by the force of circumstances, into the willing instruments of their own mass execution. Nazis cleverly and quite cynically

orchestrated what HA calls the "moral collapse of respectable Jewish" society, by holding out some avenues of escape in an otherwise hopeless situation. In the early phases before the unleashing of Final Solution, it was a policy of favoring one Jewish group over the other. For example, Nazis support for Zionism chimed, at this early, with their method of seeking the solution to Jewish problem through forced emigration. They isolated and look down on the assimilationists and praised Zionists, as Eichmann puts it, as idealists. They also created a special camp at Theresienstadt for the "privileged" category of Jews as a showcase to the world where Red Cross inspections could take place. In the later stages of mass executions, when the situation has become desperate, it is the pure animal instinct for survival and hope of saving some at the cost of many that led Jewish elders and councils to co-operate with the Nazis. For Nazis, it was much economical and convenient for the victims to handle the dirty police work themselves. Also, by creating categories for respectable Jews – those who fought in the previous war, for example – they soothed the conscience of folks at home who knew at least one "decent Jew".

The moral of all this is to show that the people living under conditions of hopelessness and despair and made to fight for their survival and identity could be easily manipulated by the controlling authority holding power of life and death over them, into a seemingly self-destructive behavior and betraying their own people. It is exactly the same calculus that is at work in cynical Israeli policy of bringing about the moral bankruptcy of occupied Palestinian society by reducing sections of it to be willing policemen of their own captivity. The role of Palestinian authority and the corruption of its leadership must be seen in the light of this Israeli policy of finding venal partners for its illegal enterprise. The example of Jewish Council of Elders, and the co-operative police work in rounding up of Jews and policing the ghettos provides a template for this kind of control.

By reducing Palestinian authority to a glorified police force in the west Bank tasked with ensuring control and peace as Israel never ceased building illegal settlements on their land, and reducing Gaza to an open air prison a la Warsaw ghetto, Israel wanted to divide and conquer the Palestinian opposition to it. Not only that, by arranging things so that only the most rabid, and extreme opposition remains as the only viable opposition to Israel, which can then be castigated as fanatic and bundled with other radical muslim jihadi outfits, it wanted to control the narrative and tone of opposition to its oppression. Hence the rage of Israeli Prime Minister, when Hamas joined the Palestinian authority and began to take steps to undercut this narrative! How dare Hamas relinquished the armed struggle and vows to destroy Israel for the peaceful struggle and co-existence! That is not what is in the script, and hence Hamas must be punished for it. This is and only this explains the latest flare up in Gaza! There is one more aspect to this moral collapse of the victim as it relates to the surrounding Arab states. It is not an accident that I am using the word victim for the surrounding Arab states, and not what comes obviously to mind, especially as regards Saudi Arabia and Egypt, accomplices in the crime. They are victims in so far as their situation is analogous to the Nazi occupied

countries of Europe such as Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and so on. Here the occupation is not a direct one by Israel, but indirect one by its biggest supporter United States, and not through direct occupation, but by supporting and installing the puppet, corrupt and tyrannical regimes. It is through these regimes that massive resources and policies of these regimes are controlled, and their populations kept educationally, culturally, and technologically backward. The moral collapse is reflected in the decadence of the ruling class and their conspicuous consumption and apathy of the masses to this situation. Even when attempts are made to rectify, they run up against the stone wall of US supported entrenched opposition. To this monarchical and tyrannical petro dollar driven regimes and consumption, is now deliberately added the lethal dimension of sectarian hatred in order to always keep the pot boiling and to provide channels for frittering away radical tendencies into self-destructive and divisive endeavors. All this is heaven sent for Israel, which not only sees in it an almost endless gold mine of propaganda to taint the opposition in the most unflattering and now the almost universal bogey of political or radical Islam, but also an enemy self-immolating in the fires of old, atavistic, sectarian hatreds. The upshot of all this is that both the sectarian battles, the fears of sundry caliphates and petro-dollar driven tyrannies are going to stay there for a while, since they suite both Israel and its arch supporter United States, in the wider scheme of things. But for the middle eastern Muslim society, they are the most potent expression of their "moral collapse".

Hammad Said is an IT consultant and lives in Portland, Oregon, and can be reached at hammad_said@hotmail.com. Notes.

- [i] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 10, penguin addition
 - [ii] David Russet, a former inmate of Buchenwald quoted by Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 11, penguin addition
 - [iii] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 52, penguin addition
 - [iv] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil
 - [v] (http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/24/world/middleeast/a-s-much-of-the-world-frowns-on-israel-americans-hold-out-support.html?_r=0,
 - [vi] Eric Rajakowitsch, in charge of deportation of Dutch Jews: Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 75, penguin addition
 - [vii] "Judge Halevi, asking the defense counsel of Eichmann to clarify his shocking statement about gasing: Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: penguin addition
 - [viii] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 86, penguin addition
 - [ix] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 95, penguin addition
 - [x] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 103, penguin addition
 - [xi] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 115, penguin addition
 - [xii] R. Pendorf, quoted by Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 117, penguin addition
 - [xiii] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 131, penguin addition
 - [xiv] Louis De Jong , quoted by Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 132, penguin addition
 - [xv] Hannah Arendt: Eichmann In Jerusalem, A Report In The Banality Of Evil: page 80, penguin addition
- <http://www.counterpunch.org/2014/07/28/relevance-of-hannah-arendts-a-report-on-the-banality-of-evil-to-gaza/>

From AI's Archive



Psychopaths and Ignoramuses Iran's Holocaust Denial and its Perception in Germany

Julius H. Schoeps / Olaf Glöckner:

Director of the Moses Mendelssohn Center (MMZ) Potsdam/Academic Assistant at the MMZ

29 March 2009

„Iran's Holocaust Denial and its perception in Germany“ is a very complex topic, and I am aware of the fact, that I can touch only single aspects, which nevertheless shall provide an overview of the general German reactions and attitudes toward a phenomenon that I would call the *Iranian Holocaust denial policy*. During the last years it has become obvious, that not only President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad but also some of his predecessors, religious and non-religious political leaders of the Islamic republic, made Holocaust denial a substantially important element of their propaganda repertoire. My lecture shall illustrate that - irrespective

of all the absurdity of historical falsification - there is a clear system behind.

Historians emphasize that denying the Shoah is not the invention of the Iranian Mullahs. It's obviously a brainchild of European, American and Australian publicists. Figures like David Irving in Great Britain, Ernst Zündel in Canada or Robert Faurisson in France have reaped doubtful fame with it for a long time - and they drew much of applause among right-wing extremists and anti-Semites. To the notorious Western deniers we can add now the British born Catholic bishop Richard Williamson,

who questioned the existence of gas chambers in Nazi death camps 20 years ago and did so again in a Swedish TV broadcast in January 2009. It is interesting to see how much the Catholic Church is toiling to press him into withdrawing his claim. However, Holocaust deniers in the Western world are usually either refuted by competent historians or they have the image of "somebody unteachable". They might be good for some public scandals but in general they face a strong political "headwind". In the case of Richard Williamson, even Argentina expelled the unpleasant person from his adopted home and forced him to move back to London. In fact, we can state that the Western world normally penalizes "its" Holocaust deniers with disapproval and – where it's possible – also with lawsuits.

Some may argue that – in contrast to Europe – Holocaust denial is a relatively new phenomenon in the *Muslim world*. However, the intensity by which it occurs nowadays throughout the Middle East is surprising and shocking. Historians and publicists of different countries, but first of all leading Iranian politicians endeavour to question the authenticity of the Genocide on about 6 Million European Jews by the Nazis during World War II. One might reflect about the apparent irrationality of Holocaust denial but this won't be very helpful in finding explanations for the current phenomenon in the *occident* as well as in the *orient*.

I am taking as my starting point the so called "Holocaust Conference" in Teheran in December 2006. 67 delegates from 30 different countries came to this lunatic meeting into the capital of Iran, among them a half dozen Germans.^[1] I don't wish to get into any details of this gathering. A few names, keywords and quotes shall be enough to reveal the insanity of this event and to illustrate the atmosphere of a real madhouse: Some scholars and pseudo-scholars were sitting side by side with figures like the former Ku-Klux-Klan leader David Duke, Australian model Michèle Renouf and Rabbis from the ultra-orthodox sect "Neturei Karta", who prefer handshake with the Iranian president to having any talks with Israel. German-Australian educationist Frederick Toben was lecturing about the Holocaust as a "Killer's Weapon", French publicist Robert Faurisson was calling the Shoah just a "myth", and Veronika Clarke, an American participant, came with the thesis that "the Jews made money in (!) Auschwitz". The equipment of the conference halls matched very well with such statements. Here the visitors could look at photographs with dead bodies of camp prisoners having the inscription: "A myth". Beside them – photographs with smiling survivors of death camps the inscription of which reads: "The truth".

In general it's hard to imagine that such a photo gallery can hang in the building of a foreign ministry – but this is exactly what happened at this Teheran conference. Indeed, Iranian activities of Holocaust denial and its calculated aggressiveness against Israel have reached a remarkably new quality under Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. On the other hand, the tirades of the current Iranian President are only the [peak of the iceberg](#), and they highlight the results of an ill-fated development in wider parts of the radical Islamic world. Already during the 1990ies several countries of the Middle East have discovered their

peculiar "love" for Western Holocaust deniers like Swiss author Jürgen Graf, former Austrian politician Wolfgang Froehlich and French Ex-Communist Roger Garaudy. Holocaust denial has become part of the "daily diet" in Egypt, Iran, Syria, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority and Qatar, who use it as a means to foment anti-Semitic hatred among their people. It is especially attractive for those political and religious forces, who believe that Holocaust denial can undermine the legitimacy of the Jewish State by claiming that the Holocaust is a historical fabrication – just created to give rise to sympathy for Jews and Israel. For such a gloomy venture, Holocaust deniers of the West are welcomed and pictured as "politically persecuted". Notorious figures in the denial movement, like for example Mark Weber and Ernst Zündel, were given significant air time on Iran's official radio station, IRIB. French Holocaust denier Roger Garaudy received major support from Middle East countries during his trial in 1998. Already at that time, Iranian politicians played an inglorious role. It was nobody else than former Iranian president Ali Akbar Rafsandsjani, who declared his conviction that "Hitler had only killed 20.000 Jews and not six million", and who claimed that "Garaudy's crime derives from the doubt he cast on Zionist propaganda."^[2]

In addition, politicians, publicists and journalists from the Middle East have learned very quickly to copy the ideas of prominent Western deniers and to develop their own propaganda style. In December 2005, Egyptian columnist Hisham Abd Al-Rauf wrote the following sentences in the government promoted newspaper "Al-Masaa":

"We've had enough of the lies and the falsification of the facts (...) The most serious lie is the Jews' Holocaust, which they have exploited in order to extort global solidarity (...) The famous execution chambers were no more than rooms for disinfecting clothing (...) It has also been proven that Hitler was not against the Jews, as disseminated by the Zionist historians, but on the contrary, he permitted 120.000 Jews to emigrate to occupied Palestine in his first years in power, in order to appease the Jews."^[3]

Al-Rauf's comment was an enthusiastic gesture of agreement with Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who declared at the same time on an international Islamic gathering in Mekka:

"The might of arrogance have established Israel as a bastion from where they can control the whole Islamic world. (...) That means that the current conflict in Palestine makes the frontier line in the War between the world of Islam and the world of arrogance."^[4]

Such statements are, admittedly, unvarnished cleartext. Ahmadinejad declares the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to be the acid test *between two worlds*: The world of the Islam and the world of "arrogancy" which is a typical metaphor used for the West. Two conclusions can be drawn from such statements: Firstly, Israel is the pretended occasion. It stands for the West in general. And secondly, the repeated efforts to question the Holocaust are *only one mosaic piece* in the Iranian and the general radical Islamic strategy to fight Israel and – in the long run – Jews worldwide and especially in the West.

Distinct hostility against Israel has been a trademark of the Iranian Mullah regime from its very beginning.

Already in 1979, the year of the Islamic Revolution, spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini introduced the so called "Jerusalem Day" as an "Al-Quds Day" and mobilized Millions Iranians to demonstrate in favour of ending the "Zionist regime."^[5] In the version of Iranian radical leaders not the killed European Jews in World War II are the true victims, but the Palestinians of today. Either the whole Holocaust is "a myth" or - if yet a true story -, an unsolved European problem. Whatever "objective" historiography would reveal: For the radical Islamic leaders of Iran, Israel remains a State without a right to exist.

In the course of the years Iran's Islamic revolutionists refined their means to fight the Jewish State - reaching from military support for Hamas, Djihad Islami and Hisbollah to the cross-border distribution of anti-Semitic publications, from calling for a "Holocaust cartoon competition"^[6] to organising the "Holocaust conference". It remains the secret of Western participants of this conference why they clubbed together with radical Islamists but it can be taken for granted that they served as "useful idiots" in the dangerous game of the Mullah's regime.

At the end of the Teheran conference Ahmadinejad was very satisfied, and "generously" he announced the establishment of a so called "World Foundation for Holocaust Studies" (ISUH)^[7]. At this occasion he did not omit to say: "Just as the Soviet Union was wiped out and today does not exist, so will the Zionist regime soon be wiped out."^[8]

It is astonishing how "clemently" and passively the Western world reacted to this provocative conference - with its special mix of Holocaust denial, clear anti-Semitic scansion and verbal attacks on the pure existence of the State of Israel. No international consequences were demanded. Did the world already get used to the fact that *heads of state* refer to the biggest genocide of human history as "a lie of the Zionists and their Western supporters"?

Here is the point now, to ask about German reactions to the *Iranian Holocaust Denial Policy*. What are the answers of that country in the heart of which the Holocaust was planned and whose death squads put all efforts into making Europe "judenfrei" in World War II? Firstly, it needs to be noted that a considerable part of Germans is nowadays immunized against dull falsifications of history, and so in case of the Holocaust. The Shoah is an important and often discussed topic not only in schools, but also in the arts and very much in the media and in public discourses. Many Germans have visited Auschwitz and the Israeli Holocaust memorial in Yad Vashem. The TV series "Holocaust" in the 1970ies and the movies "Schindlers List" in 1994 and "The Pianist" in 2003 shocked and touched a wide audience. Especially young people are interested in knowing more about the rise of the Nazis and the contexts, in which the genocide on the European Jews happened. This is the result of decades of historical consolidation, of long standing educational efforts, of wide public debates about Nazi perpetrators and their willing supporters. As an outcome many Germans react allergic to cases of Holocaust denial - just as many of them generally condemn anti-Semitic activities. Leading political figures are included in this consensus. Thus, when Richard Williamson denied the existence of gas chambers in January 2009, German Chancellor Angela

Merkel required a rectification by the German-born Pope Benedikt XVI. Because of this demand, she got into a lot of trouble with parts of the Catholic Church and probably even disgruntled a part of her potential electorate. But the subsequent opinion poll showed that she was in the right: 71 percent of the Germans supported her critics at

Williamson and her request to the Pope.^[9]

Also in December 2006, a protest wave against Ahmadinejad's Holocaust conference was expected. And in fact: All five political parties of the German parliament, the Bundestag, sharply condemned the Teheran conference. It was denounced as an impertinence against the victims, the survivors and every human with common sense. The president of the German Bundestag, Norbert Lammert, immediately wrote a letter to Ahmadinejad and condemned the attempt to "enhance anti-Jewish prejudices and to cover distinct anti-Israeli policy with the image of pseudo-scientific freedom and objectivity."^[10] Already before the beginning of the conference Social Democratic politician Gert Weisskirchen declared: "The Internationale of anti-Semitism is at work." Left wing politician Norman Paech spoke about a "strategy of provocation", and liberal politician Werner Hoyer saw an "almost lighting of the powder keg".

Nonetheless, Iran's President could also find some sympathizers at the far right margin of the German political landscape. His allusion to "guilt feelings" of the German people - as done in an interview with the weekly magazine "DER SPIEGEL" in May 2006 - was obviously welcomed by the right wing extremist milieu in Germany. At least Udo Voigt, the head of the right wing party NPD, was very delighted to give an interview for Iranian journalists in December 2007, now downplaying the dimension of the Holocaust from his side. Voigt was questioning the number of Holocaust victims:

6 Million - that couldn't be correct. It could have been, in maximum, 340.000, who died in Auschwitz. The Jews say all the time: Even when only one Jew died because of his Jewishness, it was a crime. However, it makes of course a big difference, whether we pay for 6 Million or for 340.000. And then, at any time, also the uniqueness of this big crime - or alleged big crime - then also the uniqueness disappears. ^[11]

Udo Voigt and his party NPD present a marginal political force in Germany^[12], and the chances of closer cooperation between right wing extremists and radical Islamists remain rather unlikely. Their world views and political concepts are, fortunately, too conflicting. But this is not hindering such different radicals to join ranks when it goes against Israel and against any amends for the Nazi crimes perpetrated against the Jews.

When German mainstream media reported on the so called Teheran conference in December 2006, they did not forget to refer to common interests of the Mullah Regime leaders and the notorious right wing extremists. The weekly magazine "DER STERN" titled its report with: "All what Nazis like to hear". The magazine "DER SPIEGEL" titled with: "Brown travellers group in Teheran". The journalist Jörg Lau found the most fitting words in the weekly DIE ZEIT when he remarked: "White Racists, Jewish Sectarrians, Revisionists and Mullahs united in denying the best documented crime of human history. A gathering the

participants of which hate each other almost to the same extent they all together hate the Jews, is dismantling itself. There is no need to fear them. But things are quite different with the host. In contrast to many of his guests, he knows what he is doing.”[13]

German readers were not only provided with tart comments on and details of the conference in Lau’s article. Everybody who was interested to learn more about Iranian leaders’ competition in discrediting Jews and Israel - including figures like Manouchehr Mottaki[14], Ali Akbar Rafsandjani or Ali Chamenei[15] - could find the whole “panorama” of ideological madness in the reports and comments around the Teheran conference.

However, two important questions have remained unanswered until today. Firstly: Is the German public indeed realizing that Ahmadinedjad and his compatriots are using almost the complete repertoire provided by thousands of years of anti-Judaism to make daily policy? And secondly: What is, in fact, being done to put pressure on a regime that is denying the Holocaust and is maybe planning a second one?

In connection with the first question I want to emphasize that the *historical* Islam does not reveal an inherent anti-Semitism in the sense of medieval Christian anti-Judaism or modern European anti-Semitism.[16] Moreover: Many anti-Jewish stereotypes and bogeymen, which are used *now* by radical Islamists, have their origin in medieval and modern *European* sources. This is also the case when we look at the “Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion”. This infamous pamphlet - which is said to prove a planned “Jewish World Conspiracy” - was originally a fake used by the Russian Tsarist Secret Police. In today’s Europe and in the rest of the Western World such a text can only cause a “weary smile”. Not so in parts of the Muslim world where the readers’ demand for such literature has significantly increased. The “Jewish World Supremacy” as suggested by the “Protocols” would mean the suppression and exploitation of other peoples, cultures and religions. Since many Islamic religious leaders generally consider Western society and lifestyle as “manipulated by the Jews”, they clearly demand to keep distance or even to conduct the “Holy War” (Dshihad). The Charta of Hamas - currently the strongest and most radical Islamic organization on the Palestinian side - is offering remarkable parallels. Here just one passage:

Jews have been the brains behind the French Revolution and the Communist Revolution, and stood behind most of the Revolutions (...) They also caused the Second World War, whereof they made a lot of profit by trade with munition and in which they prepared the establishment of their state.[17]

At another passage of the Charta Hamas declares as its aim the “liberation” of the whole of Palestine, which means the complete destruction of the Jewish State. It’s important to note that this is not only a political aim, but a religious commandment as well. Here we find the common interest with Ayatollah Khomeini, the spiritual father of the Islamic revolution in Iran who taught that “all Muslims should unite against Israel”, the “symbol of Western tyranny”[18]. Seen from such a perspective, Rafsandjani, Chatami and Ahmadinedjad are just paladins of the former charismatic leader. They are continuing their mentor’s struggle against Israel with even more

criminal energy. And it fits very much to the general Mullah’s attitude that they put a lot of effort into spreading “The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion” around the World - and don’t hesitate to invest a huge amount of money in convincing the world of the “Jewish threat”.

But let’s come back to Germany and the first question remaining: I think that in today’s Germany the awareness that Teheran’s Holocaust denial is part of a *coherent strategy* is very underdeveloped. German journalist Matthias Küntzel is one of the few who did not spare trouble to go a bit deeper into the contexts and to look behind the warped Iranian propaganda. Küntzel linked the permanent Iranian claims of a “faked Holocaust” more or less directly to the accelerated nuclear program. He is definitely right in doubting that the Islamic political elite of Iran -

including all former presidents - would be ready to deal with nuclear power in a rational and responsible way. For example, former President Ali Akhbar Rafsandjani, was already attracting attention with both absurdities: He denied the Holocaust and discussed the Pros and Cons of a Nuclear War with Israel.[19]

But not many German comments and reports are shedding light on the contexts as Küntzel is doing it. Admittedly, it’s much easier to polemicize against the unbearable speeches of a political figure like Ahmadinedjad - and then to wait for the next provocations, that will certainly come. This comes a long with the strange fact that a considerable part of the German population consider Israel not so much as a safe haven for hassled Diaspora Jews but very much a problem factor in the Middle East. Moreover: In some surveys, Israel came even out as the big trouble maker. In a poll of the European Union, conducted in 2003, about 59 percent of the Europeans ranked Israel as the greatest danger for peace, and among the Germans even 65 percent said so![20] There are two aspects which are especially shocking about these results: Firstly, the “Israeli threat” was not only presumed for the Middle East, but for the *whole World*. Secondly, Iran and states like North Korea or Syria ranked behind Israel.

Polls like the mentioned of 2003 indicate that certain ambivalences in German media coverage on Iran - as well as on Israel - are easily adopted by the population. On the one hand the media are vehemently criticizing Iranian Holocaust denial activities and are condemning hate speeches and menaces against the Jewish State. On the other hand, the picture is mixed up with reports on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, by reports on Israeli military actions on Palestinian territory and also by critical comments on the American presence and policy in Iraq and Afghanistan. The impression emerges, that joint efforts by the United States and Israel - which are both considered as military super powers - could bring an easing of tension into the Middle East, “if they *really* want it”. Such a view, however, is firstly overestimating American and Israeli opportunities to “steer” a possible peace process. It suggests - at least in a subtle manner - that both countries have not been committed enough over the last years, or pursued a rather wrong policy. Finally, this view completely ignores the fact, that there is a lack of partners for straightforward talks.[21] Wishful thinking is very hip in

today's Germany, possibly rooted in the own negative historical experience of the 20th century, and apparently leading to the belief that good-willing talks can even change the attitudes of fanatic regimes.

The second question – about practical German consequences in the face of continuing Iranian Holocaust denial, anti-Semitic propaganda and repeated appeals to destroy Israel – needs to be answered with even more scepticism.

Official German statements sound like a pleading for an Iran without nuclear capacities, and Germany seems ready to formally support sanctions in case Iran goes further with its nuclear program. On the other hand, at least 1.700 German companies are active in Iran, and about three fourth of all small and medium sized Iranian factories and plants are equipped with German technology^[22]. All this would provide excellent opportunities to combine closer economic relations with some minimum ethical demands, for example the demand to refrain from spreading anti-Semitic propaganda material. However, there have not been many of moderate tons to hear from Teheran concerning Israel and the Jewish world over recent years. Nevertheless, in the years 2006 and 2007, the German government granted new German business investors in Iran state-funded guarantees, thus definitely rewarding the Mullah regime.^[23] In 2008, the German-Iranian trade volume even increased by 10 percent.^[24]

One of the most active combines in Iran is the huge technical company "Siemens". On its last shareholders' assembly in January 2009 in Munich, the non-governmental organization "Stop the Bomb" – which aims to prevent nuclear armament in Iran by mobilizing the public – protested against the strong commitment in Iran *under this regime*. Chancellor Angela Merkel also appealed to German companies to conduct business in Iran rather "sensitively".

On the other hand, parts of the political establishment clearly favour a continuation or even an upgrading of the economical cooperation with the Mullah regime. Influential Think Tanks like the "Foundation Science and Policy" (SWP) claim that economical sanctions on Iran would be "pointless"^[25] or even recommend a "strategic partnership" with Iran. Scholars like Udo Steinbach, the former President of the German Orient Institute, plead for a more relaxed contact with the Mullah State and hold, that even an Iran armed with nuclear weapons would "not jeopardize" – *Europe*.^[26]

What can be learned and concluded from such ambivalent tendencies? At the intersection of past and present, German politics seems to got stuck between Israel – the haven of many Shoah survivors and a declared ally – and Iran, a gigantic trade partner but ruled by radical Mullahs who call up to destroy the Jewish state. It looks like a great challenge for German media and public to encourage German foreign policy for "drawing a red line" to Iran's destructive, anti-

Semitic and anti-Western behaviour. However, this won't be done only by some brave statements against Holocaust denial and some lip service of solidarity with Israel.

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^[1] At the Teheran conference the German participants rather remained in the background, and this for good reason: Paragraph 130/3 of the German penal code is defining any kind of Holocaust denial as "populist incitement", and the violation of this paragraph normally leads to a lawsuit against the offender.

^[2] Holocaust denial and the Middle East: The Latest Anti-Israel Propaganda Theme, Anti-Defamation League, New York 2001. See also: Ramin Jahanbegloo (2007) Holocaust Denial in Iran and anti-semitic discourse in the Muslim world. In: Muslim-Jewish dialogue in a 21st Century world. Centre for Minority Studies, History Department, Royal Holloway University of London, Egham, pp. 129-130.

^[3] Al-Masaa (Egypt), December 12th, 2005. See also: Ramin Jahanbegloo (2007) Holocaust Denial in Iran and anti-semitic discourse in the Muslim world. In: Muslim-Jewish dialogue in a 21st Century world. Centre for Minority Studies, History Department, Royal Holloway University of London, Egham, pp. 129-130.

^[4] Henner Fürtig. In: Benz/Wetzel (2007), p. 121.

^[5] See: Schams/Wahdat-Hagh in: Faber/Schoeps/Stawski (2007), p. 218ff.

^[6] In 2006 Iran's largest daily "Hamshahri" sponsored a widely publicized cartoon contest making a mockery of the Holocaust. Allegedly this was a reaction to caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad published in the Danish newspaper "Jyllands-Posten" in September 2005. The so called "Cartoon War" caused a serious diplomatic crisis between the European Union and several Muslim countries in 2006. Interestingly, almost nobody clarified during the heated discussions that the cartoon series of "Jyllands-Posten" had absolutely no reference point to Israeli or Jewish activities – but this did not hinder radical Islamist spokesmen to spread such accusations. The Iranian radicals considered a "Holocaust cartoon contest" as the suitable answer on the Danish caricatures.

[7] In the long run, the Foundation Office is said to be located in Berlin! Committees of the foundation are planned in several countries. Beside this, an "international juridical commission" shall work out penalties for "people that possibly created the lies and myths of the Holocaust", and – not to forget – "the rehabilitation of innocently sentenced, critical voices". See in this context:

<http://www.hagalil.com/lexikon/index.php?title=Holocaustleugnung> (14.3.2009)

[8] Haaretz, December 13th 2006.

[9] DER STERN, February 12th 2009.

[10] DIE WELT, December 11th 2006.

[11] German TV ARD, Report Mainz, December 12th 2007.

[12] For several reasons, a governmental attempt to prohibit the NPD failed at the Constitutional Court in 2003. A second attempt to get through the banning of the NPD at the Constitutional Court is under discussion.

[13] Jörg Lau, ZEIT-online, blog, dec.2006.

[14] At the so called Holocaust conference in Teheran in December 2006, foreign minister Manouchehr Mottaki declared: "If the official version [historiography] of the Holocaust has to be questioned, then also the nature and identity of Israel." See: DIE WELT, December 12th 2006.

[15] Ali Chamenei, the top religious leader of Iran, is notorious for calling Israel a "cancer" that has to be removed.

[16] Compare Bassam Tibi in: Faber/Schoeps/Stawski (2007), p. 187.

[17] Benz in: Tribüne 47/186, 2008, p.47

[18] Henner Fürtig in: Benz/Wetzel (2007), p. 110.

[19] In December 2001 Rafsandjani declared: "The use of only one atom bomb could destroy Israel completely whereas the Islamic neighbourhood would be damaged only to a limited extent. (...) It is not irrational to imagine this as a serious option." Rafsandjani did also not abstain from using a mix of political and religious views and continued: "The Western

support for Israel can lead to a Third World War. A War that would take place between the Believers who search for the martyrdom, and those who are the incarnation of arrogance." See: Wall Street Journal, January 16th 2006.

[20] Küntzel (2007), p. 144.

[21] With respect to the Iran-visit of former Chancellor Gerhard Schröder in February 2009 and to the Iranian Presidential elections in June 2009 parts of the German media conveyed hope that Ahmadinedschad's rival Mohammad Chatami, who was President in former times, could become a new "partner for dialog". Nevertheless, it needs a lot of mental acrobatics to forget Chatami's notorious speech on the Iranian State Television in October 2000, directly at the outbreak of the Second Palestinian Intifada. Chatami recommended to his spectators: "We should mobilize the whole Islamic world for a strong confrontation with the Zionist regime (...) If we follow the Koran, we should be ready to kill." See: Henner Fürtig in: Benz/Wetzel (2007), p.117. (Emphasis: J.H.S.)

[22] Küntzel (2008), p.1.

[23] A stop of the so called "Hermes guarantees" was discussed by the German government in January 2009 but was finally not enacted.

[24] Jüdische Allgemeine, February 26th 2009.

[25] „Sanctions are pointless". An interview with Christoph Bertram, former director of SWP. In: DER SPIEGEL, April 14th 2008. In the same interview, Bertram recommends: "Chancellor Angela Merkel should not back each catastrophe warning of Israel."

[26] „Europe won't be jeopardized by a State of Iran armed with nuclear weapons." Interview with Udo Steinbach in: Eurasisches Magazin, 04/07.

<http://www.eurasischesmagazin.de/artikel/?artikelID=20070404>. (01.03.2009)

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England vs India:

Moeen Ali may face charge over 'Free Palestine' wristbands

Batsman's protest overshadows Bell's century against India in third Test

STEPHEN BRENKLEY, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, TUESDAY 29 JULY 2014



The England batsman Moeen Ali could be in trouble after wearing wristbands supporting the victims of the conflict in Gaza during the third Test on Monday. It may have been an overt statement of his beliefs, and one that will garner sympathy from many quarters, but it may also place him on a charge with the International Cricket Council.

During his brief innings against India in Southampton, Moeen was spotted wearing white and black bands bearing the messages: "Save Gaza" and "Free Palestine". England's management made clear that in its opinion he had committed no offence, but the ICC said it was investigating and would

report. It would be up to the match referee, David Boon, to lay any charge under the code of conduct.

A strict interpretation of the ICC's clothing regulations suggests that Moeen was in contravention. The clause on personal messages says: "Players and team officials shall not be permitted to wear, display or otherwise convey messages through armbands or other items affixed to clothing or equipment unless approved in advance by the player or team official's board. Approval shall not be granted for messages which relate to political, religious or racial activities or causes." Moeen has no qualms about expressing his affiliations or his beliefs, wearing his long beard as a label. In an interview last year he said: "I want people to know I am a Muslim and I want people to know I am representing the Muslim faith. I want to show that you can practise your faith and still play cricket to a high level. Yes, I see myself as a role model. And as a role model, I have to behave in a certain way. Do I see it as a mission? Yes, I do."

The controversy came on a good day for England, with Ian Bell scoring 167 as the hosts declared on 569 for 7. In their reply, India reached 25 for 1 by close of play.

http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/cricket/england-vs-indiamoeenalimayfacechargeoverfreepalestinewristbands9634355.html?s2email=email&utm_source=indynewsletter&utm_medium=email29072014

When Genocide is Permissible

YOCHANAN GORDON | AUGUST 1, 2014, 5:36 PM |

Judging by the numbers of casualties on both sides in this almost one-month old war one would be led to the conclusion that Israel has resorted to disproportionate means in fighting a far less- capable enemy. That is as far as what meets the eye. But, it's now obvious that the US and the UN are completely out of touch with the nature of this foe and are therefore not qualified to dictate or enforce the rules of this war – because when it comes to terror there is much more than meets the eye.

I wasn't aware of this, but it seems that the nature of warfare has undergone a major shift over the years. Where wars were usually waged to defeat the opposing side, today it seems – and judging by the number of foul calls it would indicate – that today's wars are fought to a draw. I mean, whoever heard of a timeout in war? An NBA Basketball game allows six timeouts for each team during the course of a game, but last I checked this is a war! We are at war with an enemy whose charter calls for the annihilation of our people. Nothing, then, can be considered disproportionate when we are fighting for our very right to live.

The sad reality is that Israel gets it, but its hands are being tied by world leaders who over the past six years have insisted they are such good friends with the Jewish state, that they know more regarding its interests than even they do. But there's going to have to come a time where Israel feels threatened enough where it has no other choice but to defy international warnings – because this is life or death.

Most of the reports coming from Gazan officials and leaders since the start of this operation have been either largely exaggerated or patently false. The truth is, it's not their fault, falsehood and deceit is part of the very fabric of who they are and that will never change. Still however, despite their propensity to lie, when your enemy tells you that they are bent on your destruction you believe them. Similarly, when Khaled Meshal declares that no physical damage to Gaza will dampen their morale or weaken their resolve – they have to be believed. Our sage Gedalia the son of Achikam was given intelligence that Yishmael Ben Nesanyah was plotting to kill him. However, in his piety or rather naiveté Gedalia dismissed the report as a random act of gossip and paid no attention to it. To this day, the day following Rosh Hashana is commemorated as a fast day in the memory of Gedalia who was killed in cold blood on the second day of Rosh Hashana during the meal. They say the definition of insanity is repeating the same mistakes over and over. History is there to teach us lessons and the lesson here is that when your enemy swears to destroy you – you take him seriously.

Hamas has stated forthrightly that it idealizes death as much as Israel celebrates life. What other way then is there to deal with an enemy of this nature other than obliterate them completely? News anchors such as those from CNN, BBC and Al-Jazeera have not missed an opportunity to point out the majority of innocent civilians who have lost their lives as a result of this war. But anyone who lives with rocket launchers installed or terror tunnels burrowed in or around the vicinity

of their home cannot be considered an innocent civilian. If you'll counter, that Hamas has been seen abusing civilians who have attempted to leave their homes in response to Israeli warnings to leave – well then, your beginning to come to terms with the nature of this enemy which should automatically cause the rules of standard warfare to be suspended.

Everyone agrees that Israel has the right to defend itself as well as the right to exercise that right. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon has declared it, Obama and Kerry have clearly stated that no one could be expected to sit idle as thousands of rockets rain down on the heads of its citizens, placing them in clear and present danger. It seems then that the only point of contention is regarding the measure of punishment meted out in this situation.

I will conclude with a question for all the humanitarians out there. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu clearly stated at the outset of this incursion that his objective is to restore a sustainable quiet for the citizens of Israel. We have already established that it is the responsibility of every government to ensure the safety and security of its people. If political leaders and military experts determine that the only way to achieve its goal of sustaining quiet is through genocide is it then permissible to achieve those responsible goals?

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Times of Israel removes an unacceptable blog post

Blog was blatant breach of editorial guidelines

BY TIMES OF ISRAEL STAFF August 1, 2014, 10:30 pm

***The Times of Israel* on Friday removed an unacceptable blog post, entitled "When genocide is permissible."**

This blog post, which was described by our Ops & Blogs editor as both damnable and ignorant, blatantly breached *The Times of Israel's* editorial guidelines.

We have discontinued the writer's blog.

The Times of Israel maintains an open blog platform: Once we have accepted bloggers, we allow them to post their own items. This trust has rarely been abused. We are angry and appalled that it was in this case, and will take steps to prevent a recurrence.

We will not countenance blog posts that incite to violence or criminal acts.

The blogger concerned has issued a public apology for his post.

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/times-of-israel-removes-an-unacceptable-blog-post/>

Apology from Yochanan Gordon

I never intended to call to harm any people although my words may have conveyed that message.

I wish to express deep regret and beg forgiveness for an article I authored which was posted on 5TJT.com, Times of Israel and was tweeted and shared the world over.



I never intended to call to harm any people although my words may have conveyed that message. With that said I pray and hope for a quick peaceful end to the hostilities and that all people learn to coexist with each other in creating a better world for us all.

Yochanan Gordon

<http://5tjt.com/apology-from-yochanan-gordon/>

There is also another piece calling for genocide at the *Times of Israel* site:

1 Samuel 15:18

AUGUST 1, 2014, 5:56 PM



Irwin E. Blank Irwin was born in New York City and is now retired. He served on the National Administrative Board of B'nai Zion and was Formation

Committee Chairman of the NY Salute to Israel Parade from 1978-1982. Irwin lives with his wife in Ma'aleh Adumim after making aliyah 6 years ago

1 Samuel 15:18-Samuel said, "Is it not true, though you were little in your own eyes, you were made the head of the tribes of Israel? And the LORD anointed you king over Israel, [18](#)and the LORD sent you on a

mission, and said, 'Go and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are exterminated.' ¹⁹ "Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD, but rushed upon the spoil and did what was evil in the sight of the LORD?"...

Saul was anointed king of Israel by G-d and given the mission to join the tribes of Israel as one nation and to protect them against their enemies. This has been the primary job of leaders from the beginning of time-to defend their citizens and national rights before any other obligation. For without security, without the power to protect what is basically, the lives of one's charges and the land that sustains the people, all else is of less than secondary interest or importance. A nation that will not defend itself, in whatever manner that the "king", or the president or the prime minister is empowered to do, is not a civilization that will be sustainable nor credible.

There are religious folks that place everything that happens to some esoteric or supernatural dimension, but I, a rather secular man, believe that much of what is in the Hebrew Bible (except for much of the already evidentiary history) as allegorical, and in some manner, presented in order to teach us how to live as a society. However, the passage from Samuel is an admonishment on the primary duty of a leader. To me, Samuel represents the people of Israel today, questioning and redressing a grievance to the "king," or, in this case, our prime minister. One might say that the right to redress of grievances as written in many modern constitutional documents, is one of the fundamental rights of a free people in a republic-the inherent obligation of citizens to make their voices heard when their government either fails to carry out a particular policy or fails to adhere to the voice of the electorate that placed them in position of power.

G-d might be meant to illustrate that voice of the people-the vox populi. In this case, G-d had demanded that Saul (or the "prime minister") enter into battle with the Amalekites (Hamas and its savage partners) and destroy them utterly even if that means to the last child, cow and goat. As cruel as this appears, it is a lesson that teaches a nation in terrible danger that it has a legitimate obligation to put a definite end to a substantial threat. The end of such a conflict must make it impossible for that enemy to rebuild and continue to vex one's nation forever.

Time and again, throughout Jewish history, we have been told that Amalek will arise in every generation to try to destroy this people. Saul refuses to kill Agag, the

king of the Amalekites. In his disobedience, his defying of G-d, is equivalent to our present leadership attempting to fight Hamas while refusing to employ the means to destroy it entirely. By discovering and exploding all the tunnels, or seizing all their arms, is inadequate to assure the utter destruction that is necessary in this war against the Amalekites of today.

There must be no quarter given, no "humanitarian " ceasefires, but a resolute combat without the words and demands of a hateful, hypocritical cabal barking like angry dogs, at our heels.. Because, just as the Amalekites fell upon the rear of the Israelites as they passed through their lands on the way to Canaan, the terrorists will violate every ceasefire, every truce and every politically machined halt to the fighting to retreat and bind their wounds waiting for the next opportunity to attack us.

We have fought for decades against the terrorist threats around us. In 1956, we went to war to eliminate the "fedayeen" (self sacrificers) of that era whose cross border raids into the Negev Desert, killed dozens of innocent Israelis and made life hell for our southern communities.

Again, 58 years later, and several bloody campaigns, thousands of rockets launched into Israel, tunnels dug to enable our enemies to kidnap and murder our people, and the myriad attempts of Hamas and its thugs to bring more and greater weapons of death to their arsenals in order to bleed the people of Israel, we find ourselves in battle with 21st century Amalekites because we have failed to listen to the L-rd, we have failed to kill their king, we have failed to, as Samuel lectured Saul, to "utterly destroy" the foe as the L-rd demanded. As the citizens of the State of Israel demand of their "king."

Does this mean we, on purpose, kill the innocent? No, that is merely an allegory of Biblical times, an example of the cruelty of ancient warfare. But it does mean that we leave nothing that might sustain a weakened and beaten foe. To destroy Hamas utterly, we cannot stop this war until they unconditionally surrender, even if it means making the war more horrific for the people of Gaza, who are the victims of their own leadership. Just as the Amalekites were the victims of their own king, whom Saul left alive and why today, we fight the modern day Amalekites in every generation.

It's time to take heed of the words of the L-rd, it is time to do what the people of Israel demand, it is time to kill Agag.

<http://blogs.timesofisrael.com/1-samuel-1518/>

Caroline Sturdy Colls' expensive bullying tactics begin

By [Eric Hunt](#) » Thu Jul 31, 2014 3:27 am



Billionaire Jewish media tycoon Murray Rothstein's legal team has contacted Youtube and had The Treblinka Archaeology Hoax pulled.

[The Treblinka Archaeology Hoax](#) is entirely covered under fair use.

Carolyn Sturdy Colls has pulled the Deborah Lipstadt created strategy of avoiding all criticism of her work, of even acknowledging that such criticism exists, while trying to have Murray Rothstein's legal team scare me into backing down.

Carolyn Sturdy Colls can sue me. The Shoah Foundation and Spielberg, the ADL, and Irene Zisblatt too.

But sue me for LIBEL, cowards. I'm telling the truth and I'm begging Caroline Sturdy Colls to sue me for libel so I can prove it.

No backing down against Holohoax lies which enable mass baby murder in Gaza!

Billboards to advertise the video are on their way.

Download The Treblinka Archaeology Hoax in Full HD today and upload anywhere you like! –

https://archive.org/details/Treblinka_Archaeology_Hoax

Watch my documentary THE TREBLINKA ARCHAEOLOGY HOAX

<http://holocausthoaxmuseum.com/treblinka-archaeology-hoax>

Semitism = Jewish Supremacism

<http://forum.codoh.com/viewtopic.php?f=2&t=8748&p=66786#p66786>

Caroline Colls, local girl makes good

By [Carolyn Yeager](#) » Tue Feb 28, 2012 8:23 pm

Is this a joke? This woman is only 26 years old. She just got her PhD. This is kind of like a class project for her students. She has no experience. Yet her "work" is plastered all over the newspapers. I take it this is the local newspaper where she is a university lecturer. Check out the silly pictures. I still don't understand why she is being treated respectfully by revisionists. <http://forum.codoh.com/viewtopic.php?f=2&t=8748&p=66786#p66786>



Uncovering mass graves of Holocaust horrors at Nazi death camp

By [The Sentinel](#) | Posted: February 28, 2012

Uncovering-mass-graves-Holocaust-horrors-Nazi/story-15342226-detail/story.html#mHV4gifHz5J513pQ.99 MURDERERS always leave a trace of their crimes. Yet for more than 60 years, the physical evidence of mass graves at a former Nazi concentration camp lay undiscovered.

Now Caroline Sturdy Colls, a forensic archaeologist and Staffordshire University lecturer, has built up the first scientific picture of what lies beneath the ground at Treblinka in Poland.

It includes the remains of gas chambers, large pits, and 11 locations which are thought to have become the final resting place for countless victims of the Holocaust.

Caroline, aged 26, pictured below, said: "I had started to do research into cold cases, looking at how to use modern techniques to solve murder cases. Treblinka was the ultimate cold case."

Although witness accounts provided a harrowing human record of what went on there, the site itself had been razed to the ground by the Nazis when they wound down the camp in 1943.

By then, it had served its purpose as the ultimate experiment in extermination. More than 800,000 Jews perished at Treblinka in little more than a year.

"Throughout the war, they denied it was ever there," said Caroline. "They dismantled the buildings and planted trees. They then created a farmhouse and installed a Ukrainian farmer and his family there. It was a ruse."

"My work was trying to question what 'destroyed' really means. You are always going to leave some kind of trace."

Caroline, who grew up in Blythe Bridge and now lives in Tean, began her research four years ago as part of her

PhD at Birmingham University. She will be continuing the next phase of the field work this summer through Staffordshire University.

Some of her forensic investigation students in Stoke-on-Trent will also be involved. They will be testing out chemical techniques, which Caroline then hopes to use on site to provide further evidence of the graves.

Archaeologists had previously been unable to do research at Treblinka because Jewish law prevents disturbance of human remains. It wasn't until developments in technology, including satellite imagery, GPS and mapping software, that it became possible to investigate without excavation work.

Caroline spent three weeks doing intensive surveys at the site, supported by a team of archaeologists. It involved ground-penetrating radar and creating electric images of cross-sections of the ground. They also studied vegetation patterns for clues.

Caroline recalled: "We were looking for potential boundaries. We also found structural foundations, including the remains of what is believed to be the gas chambers."

"Some pits were 34 metres long."

"The biggest problem with geophysics is you can't distinguish human remains. You just find solid material."

"But we correlated the findings with witness accounts and also overlaid the data onto aerial photographs. That's how we worked out they were mass graves."

A memorial was built at Treblinka in the 1960s. Caroline discovered its boundaries don't accurately reflect the camp's layout, which was bigger than previously thought.

The only other record of underground structures at Treblinka was from a 1946 report into German crimes in Poland. But it said no graves had been found there.

Working on site, Caroline was struck by an eerie calm. Visitors travel through open countryside and pine forests to reach the isolated spot.

It may have taken decades for the mass graves to come to light, yet bone fragments and teeth wash up with the rain.

"Cremation doesn't completely reduce a body to ashes," said Caroline. "The most amazing finds were the artefacts. They included spoons, tins and cups lying on the surface."

Piecing together the evidence was an uncomfortable experience.

Caroline added: "There were times when I wanted to walk away. But I felt so strongly that it needed to be done. It should upset you."

In the early days of the death camp, bodies were thrown into the graves. These remains were later dug

up by the Nazis and burnt. Their preferred method became the gas chambers and crematorium. Victims would follow a path nicknamed the "road to heaven". Caroline said: "You can trace their journey through the camp by looking at the landscape.

"They arrived via a railway line. The Nazis tried to make out they were being taken east for work.

"Once on the platform, some were taken to an artificial field hospital. It was a burning pit used for people who weren't going to make it to the gas chambers."

As the killings became ever more systematic, it took just eight minutes from arriving at Treblinka to extermination.

Caroline stresses her research will never "explain" the Holocaust. But she added: "If it helps people get some

closure and provides an education resource, it will have made a contribution."

She will be working with the Treblinka Museum on an exhibition. Ultimately, she hopes to create a detailed site map.

Outside of teaching and research, the former Blythe Bridge High student also acts as a consultant for police forces.

Caroline helped with the search for Keith Bennett, a victim of the Moors Murders. More recently, she recovered the body of a Gloucestershire woman murdered by her husband.

<http://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/Uncovering-mass-graves-Holocaust-horrors-Nazi/story-15342226-detail/story.html#>



Israel: A cornered rat

By Kevin Barrett, Saturday, August 2, 2014 7:11AM GMT

Israel is strong, mighty, invincible. Israel has truckloads of nuclear weapons. Israel has cluster bombs, DIME munitions, white phosphorous, and other illegal or experimental weapons with which it can kill and maim as many Palestinian civilians as it likes.

Israel is especially proficient at mass-murdering children. Israel constantly reminds us that it can exercise the "Samson option" and drop nuclear weapons on the capitals of Europe and the Middle East. Israel has even colonized America, the world's most powerful nation, exacting billions of dollars a year in tribute. What a stunningly prepotent entity! The world stands in awe of the great and terrible Israel.

That, at least, is what the Israelis would have us believe.

But it is just an illusion. Israel is not behaving like a confidently powerful nation. Instead, it is desperately lashing out like a cornered rat in the final throes of rabies.

Israel's genocide against the people of Gaza is sparking a seismic shift in world public opinion. Former New York Times journalist Philip Weiss, a noted Jewish critic of Israel, recently wrote: "There are more signs today that what the Israeli assault on Gaza in 2008-2009 did for the left, the latest assault is doing for the mainstream: solidifying a perception that Israeli leadership has lost its moorings, opening the floodgates of criticism."

Netanyahu's decision to crucify Gaza has backfired. Israel has attained none of its announced strategic objectives: It cannot destroy Hamas, cannot stop the rocket fire, cannot stop Gazans from digging tunnels. In short, it cannot stop the Palestinian resistance from building on Hezbollah's accomplishments in its 2006 victory over Israel.

Nor can Israel attain its unannounced strategic objective, which was to destroy all prospects for Palestinian unity. Netanyahu had apparently hoped that when Israel slaughtered Palestinian children, the Palestinians would blame Hamas. Instead, the

Palestinians (and the world) blame Israel. After all, it is Israeli soldiers who are murdering and maiming their children. Every last bit of Zionist-inflicted suffering elicits more strength and determination to resist Zionism by any means necessary, and to support whoever promises to fight the Zionists the hardest. And that goes for people all over the world, not just in Palestine.

University of Victoria professor John Dolan, writing under the pseudonym of "war nerd" Gary Brecher, recently republished views from a few years ago that are even more true today:

"Israel may win this battle, but it's lost the war already...(In 2009) they killed 1400 Palestinians, and it didn't do much but make everybody sick to their stomachs...In a situation like this, the real winner is likely to be the Gazans...Israel had lots of chances to deal with (the Palestinians) but they had a mandate—nothing worse than a mandate—and didn't need to make a deal with anybody. Now it's too late. There isn't always a good solution at this point in the game. Maybe ten moves back you could've won, but not now."

Most other strategists agree, though not all have the courage to say so in public. Former National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brezinski says Netanyahu "is making a very serious mistake...he is isolating Israel. He's endangering its longer-range future."

What longer-range future? Asks another legendary National Security Advisor, Henry Kissinger. In a 2012 interview with the New York Post, Kissinger made the following blanket statement:

"In 10 years, there will be no more Israel."

Even Israel's most rabid supporters admit that it is failing in Gaza. Neocon Zionist Jeffrey Goldberg admits as much in his article "Why Is Israel Losing a War It's Winning?" Goldberg's attempts to answer his own question are preposterous; he lashes out like a cornered rat at Hamas, at the world's Muslims, at anyone who is "anti-Semitic" enough to oppose Israel's ongoing genocide.

And genocide it is. Even the Zionists admit it. Yochanan Gordon spoke for the vast majority of Israeli Jews, and their supporters around the world, when he published an opinion article in Friday's edition of The Times of Israel openly advocating genocide. Gordon's article, entitled "When Genocide Is Permissible," is far more extreme and revolting than anything Adolf Hitler ever wrote.

As Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan said last week, "Those who condemn Hitler day and night have surpassed Hitler in barbarism."

Some Zionist rats are lashing out at Obama and Kerry. They believe the American President and Secretary of State are sending the wrong signals by not supporting Israel's assault on Gaza with sufficient fervor. That is one of the main reasons Israel is losing in Gaza, according to Jeffrey Goldberg. He accuses Kerry of "indulging" Hamas.

Other Zionist rats may not be just blaming Obama and Kerry, but actually conspiring against them. Last year American Zionist Andrew Adler, editor of the Jewish Times, published an editorial calling on the Israeli Mossad to kill President Obama. Many Zionists are probably entertaining the same notion today – despite the fact that Obama has exerted even less actual pressure on Israel than previous presidents did.

Once again, the cornered rats are lashing out at the wrong target. Israel's real political problem in America is not Obama himself, but the young people who voted for him. Israeli journalist Peter Beinart just published

an article in Ha'aretz headlined: "On Gaza, Israel is losing the Obama coalition. As America grows less nationalistic, less hawkish, and less religious it will grow less sympathetic to an Israel defined by exactly those characteristics."

Beinart notes that Israel's American supporters are gradually dying off: "According to Gallup, while Americans over the age of 65 support Israel's actions by a margin of 24 points, Americans under 30 oppose them by a margin of 26 points." It seems inevitable that in the not-so-distant future, the US – Israel's lone supporter on the world stage – will turn against the Zionist entity. When that happens, Kissinger's prophecy that Israel will cease to exist will be fulfilled.

Israel's leaders know that time, history, and demographics are working against them. They know that apartheid South Africa, a racist regime that was not nearly as vicious or genocidal as Israel, was erased from the pages of time by a changing current of global public opinion very similar to today's rising tide of anti-Zionism.

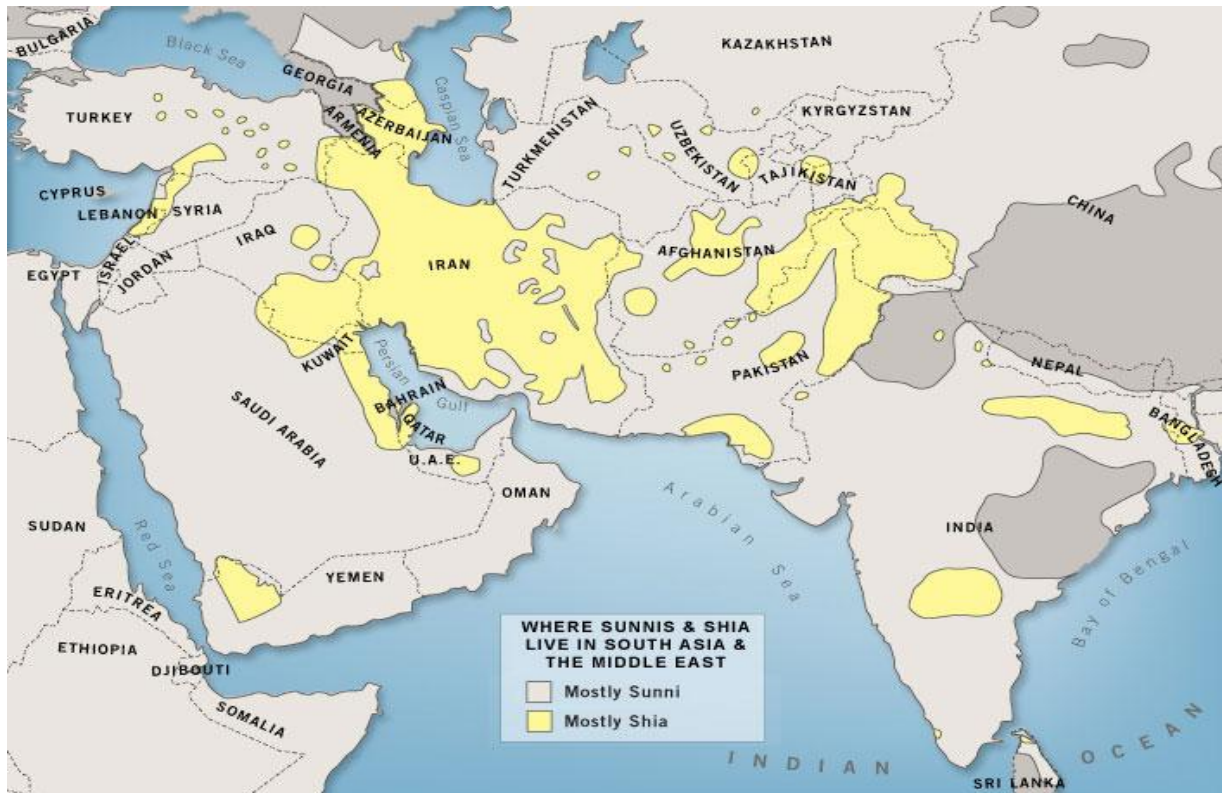
The rats in Israel have their backs to the wall. They are cornered, and they know it. And as they blindly lash out in useless fury by mass-murdering ever-increasing numbers of helpless women and children, they are simply hastening their own inevitable demise.

KB/NN

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2014/08/02/373712/israel-a-cornered-rat/>

Palestine-Israel Dove





Jerusalem Viewpoints

No. 551 13 Shevat 5767/ 1 February 2007

Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, "JCPA – Jerusalem Viewpoints" jcpa@netvision.net.il

Ahmadinejad, Iran, and Holocaust Manipulation: Methods, Aims, and Reactions*

By Manfred Gerstenfeld

The conference on the Holocaust held in Tehran on 11-12 December 2006 was a further step in Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's genocidal strategy against Israel. His extreme hate propaganda had first drawn international attention in October 2005, a few months after he was elected, when he called for the elimination of Israel.

During the riots about the Danish Mohammed cartoons in February 2006, the leading Iranian daily *Hamashahri*, owned by the Tehran municipality, announced a Holocaust-cartoon competition. It opened in August 2006. Many of the over two hundred cartoons selected from 1,100 entries were from non-Muslim countries. Holocaust inversion was a frequent theme. Most other main anti-Semitic motifs, such as demonization of the Jews, deicide, conspiracy theories of world domination, blood libel, infanticide, zoomorphism, and so on were represented in the cartoon collection.

• At the Tehran Holocaust conference, deniers from thirty countries were present. It was organized by the Foreign Office's Iranian Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS).

At its opening Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said that questioning the Holocaust is one more way of attacking the United States, along with others such as criticizing the U.S. presence in Iraq and Afghanistan.

• The genocidal attacks on Israel and the distortion of Holocaust history should be seen as part of Ahmadinejad's overall political agenda concerning the West and Israel. They derive from his apocalyptic Islamic ideology. Iranian Holocaust manipulation is therefore likely to continue as long as he is in power. Ahmadinejad and his supporters will resort to Holocaust distortion whenever they see fit.

I. Ahmadinejad's Initial Holocaust Denial

A few months after he was elected in June 2005, Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad started to make genocidal calls against Israel, which he has renewed regularly since. A few months later he started to deny the Holocaust repeatedly. A conference focusing on Holocaust denial and minimization, titled the "International Conference on Review of the Holocaust Global Vision," was held on 11-12 December 2006 in Tehran. It was one more step in Ahmadinejad's genocidal strategy against Israel. The organizer was the Foreign Office's Iranian Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) headed by Rasul Mosavi. The conference was opened by Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki who said that questioning the Holocaust is one more way of attacking the United States, along with others such as criticizing the U.S. presence in Iraq and Afghanistan.¹

He also claimed that: "if the official version of the Holocaust is thrown into doubt, then the identity and nature of Israel will be thrown into doubt. And if, during this review, it is proved that the Holocaust was a historical reality, then what is the reason for the Muslim people of the region and the Palestinians having to pay the cost of the Nazis' crimes?"² Mottaki conveniently did not mention the failed genocidal 1948 war of several Arab states and Palestinians against Israel, which is at the origin of the Palestinians' current situation.

World without Zionism

The first time Ahmadinejad's extreme anti-Israeli hate propaganda drew international attention was when he addressed the "World without Zionism" conference at the Interior Ministry in Tehran on 26 October 2005. There he quoted Imam Khomeini who had said: "This regime that is occupying Quds [Jerusalem] must be eliminated from the pages of history,"³ a typical expression for Israel's destruction.

Ahmadinejad repeated these calls on many later occasions in more or less similar terms.⁴

He also asked for the removal of Israel from the Middle East, suggesting it be placed in Germany or Austria. Western diplomatic reactions were almost exclusively verbal.

Ahmadinejad's statements are a public incitement to genocide and thus contravene international law. The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide came into force on 12 January 1951. It has been ratified by 138 states, among them Iran. As Justus Weiner noted, The Genocide Convention defines the crime of genocide, and stipulates that certain acts related to genocide are punishable. One of these prohibited acts is incitement to commit genocide. By including this as a crime the drafters sought to create an autonomous breach of international law, which is an inchoate crime—a crime in the absence of any substantive offence having been committed or consummated. Thus, in order to succeed in a case of incitement, a prosecutor need not prove that genocide has in fact transpired. It is sufficient to prove that incitement to genocide has occurred.⁵

Denying the Holocaust

Ahmadinejad's public Holocaust denial started in December 2005 when he gave a press conference in Mecca where he attended an extraordinary meeting of the fifty-seven members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. This meeting was devoted to the Muslim world's need to fight-according to Saudi foreign minister Saud al-Faisal-against sentiments of hatred toward Islam. It was meant to be a show of Muslim moderation toward the outside world.

On 8 December, Ahmadinejad said: "Certain European countries insist on saying that Hitler has killed millions of Jews in gas chambers. They go so far as to say that whoever states the contrary must be condemned and thrown into prison."

He denied that the Holocaust had occurred: "We do not believe this assertion, but even if it were true, we ask the Europeans the following question: is the murder of innocent Jews by Hitler the reason for the support of the occupiers of Jerusalem?" Ahmadinejad added: "The Europeans should offer part of their territory, from Germany, Austria, or other countries, so that the Jews can install their state there."⁶

In January 2006, it was announced that the Iranian government intended to hold an international conference on the Holocaust.⁷

Western Reactions

Ahmadinejad's words sparked many negative reactions in the West. All were verbal, as had also been the case after his genocidal threats to Israel. Austrian chancellor Wolfgang Schüssel considered Ahmadinejad's remarks only "an incident" and spoke of an "incredible derailment." He noted that Holocaust denial is a crime in Austria.⁸

On 13 December, Ahmadinejad repeated his Holocaust denial in Zahedan in southeastern Iran. There he also said that the Europeans "created a myth in the name of the Holocaust and valued that higher than God, religion and the prophets."⁹ His words were broadcast on Iranian television. Since then he and other Iranian officials have expressed several variations on the same core motif.

One somewhat surprising reaction came from the head of the Iranian Jewish community, Harun Yeshayai. In a letter to Ahmadinejad he said the small community of Iranian Jews was horrified by the Iranian public media's daily denial of Nazi Germany's genocide of the Jews.¹⁰

He did not mention Ahmadinejad's own denial, and in the letter manipulated the Holocaust himself by saying: "It is true that the Zionists have been exploiting the Holocaust to pose as victims and there is historic evidence about some radical Zionist groups collaborating with the Fascists and Nazis to intensify the Holocaust." The tone of the letter, and the protest mixed with this and other historical distortions, reflect the reality of the Jewish situation in Iran.

II. The Holocaust-Cartoon Competition

(This section was jointly authored with Hildegunn Hansen.)

The next major Iranian outburst concerning the Holocaust came on the occasion of riots in several Muslim countries in

February 2006. These were belated reactions to the Danish Mohammed cartoons.¹¹ The major daily *Hamashahri*, which is controlled by the Tehran municipality, announced an international cartoon competition on the Holocaust. It was cosponsored by the House of Caricatures, an exhibition hall for cartoons in Tehran.¹²

Thus, as usual, Holocaust manipulation by government authorities is not the work of one man. When then UN secretary-general Kofi Annan expressed his concern about the exhibition, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi said the planned conference would go ahead and, since the Holocaust was a scientific issue, both confirmers and deniers of its historicity could participate. He told reporters: "I have visited the Nazi camps in Eastern Europe. I think it is exaggerated."¹³

The Cartoon-Competition Entrants

Over two hundred cartoons were selected among 1,100 entries from over sixty countries for the exhibition, which opened in August 2006. Several portray Israel as having taken the place of the Nazis. The Palestinians are often depicted as suffering Nazi-like or even worse treatment by the Israelis.

Other cartoons convey the message that Israel exploits the Holocaust, either as a weapon against the Palestinians or as a tool to get sympathy from the world. Still other cartoons indicate that the Holocaust is a hoax or grossly exaggerated.

Others exploit classic anti-Semitic motifs such as the alleged extreme evil of the Jews, decide, conspiracy theories of world domination, blood libel, infanticide, zoomorphism, and so on. Some contain more than one anti-Semitic motif. Several are not related to the Holocaust. Some cartoons proclaim that Israel does not want peace, while others attack the West.

Anti-Semitic Stereotypes

This cartoon collection shows once more how anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism overlap. Cartoonists mingle supposed Israeli and Jewish characteristics in their pictures.

Caricaturists from Muslim countries often depict Jews as ultra-Orthodox, with black hats and sidelocks. Those from other countries frequently draw Israeli soldiers.

Many cartoons center on the core, centuries-old anti-Semitic theme that Jews-and nowadays Israel-represent absolute evil. These caricatures cover almost all categories of anti-Semitic lies and stereotypes as analyzed and defined by Arieh Stav¹⁴ and Joel Kotek.¹⁵ The latter pointed out that: "The collective image of the Jews created by Arab cartoons lays the groundwork for a possibility of genocide."¹⁶

Many cartoons entered in the competition were from non-Arab and non-Muslim countries such as Belgium, Brazil, China, Greece, India, Italy, Norway, Poland, Sweden, and the United States. Many cartoonists had non-Muslim names.¹⁷

Holocaust Inversion

Holocaust inversion is a frequent and extreme anti-Semitic motif. Several cartoons in the competition give the message that Israel is perpetrating a Holocaust against the Palestinians. The Moroccan cartoonist Naji Benaji went even further by suggesting that Israel behaved toward the Palestinians worse than the Germans treated the Jews during World War II. He was awarded a special prize for his drawing of two bottles. One, on which "Holocaust" is written, contains a few skulls; the second carries the Palestinian flag and is filled with skulls.

[View eleven cartoons in the web version of this article at www.icpa.org.]

Carlos Latuff, a Brazilian caricaturist is mentioned by Kotek as a well-known anti-Semitic cartoonist who has been producing such works for many years.¹⁸ He won a shared second prize in the Tehran competition for a cartoon that shows an Arab as a concentration-camp inmate.

The Algerian Choukri Bellahadi drew an Israeli flag turning into one with a swastika.

In the Serb Slobodan Trifkovic's cartoon, a swastika turns into a Star of David in stages. The competition's first prize went to Abdellah Derkaoui of Morocco, whose entry shows a crane placing a wall, with a concentration camp painted on it, in front of the Al-Aksa Mosque in Jerusalem. This combines several false motifs of the Palestinian narrative.

Holocaust Exploitation and Denial

One among several cartoons showing "Holocaust exploitation" is by Abdolfazl Mohtarami of Iran, who depicts an ugly-looking, bearded Jew rolling a carpet with the word Holocaust over a bleeding Arab woman.

Another cartoon by the Iranian Maziyar Bizhani shows a Jew-dressed in ultra-Orthodox garb-milking the "European cow." The word Holocaust is written on the milking tool, and the milk container bears a Star of David.

A cartoon by A-Chard of France, which won a shared second prize, contains explicit Holocaust denial. He shows a panel of smoking gas chambers lying on the ground. On its side is written "The myth of the gas chambers." An ultra-Orthodox Jew asks, "Who has put it on the ground?" and somebody answers, "Faurisson," referring to a notorious French Holocaust denier. A-Chard is a regular cartoonist for *Rivarol*, a French extreme-Right publication.¹⁹

Hossein Taheri of Iran shows a devilish-looking figure with a kippa with a Star of David on it, mixing "hollow" and "caustic" to produce "Holocaust." Sharam Rezai of Iran won the third prize with a drawing that shows Nazi soldiers burying paper dolls-rather than bodies-in a mass grave.

Deicide and Demonization

The accusation that the Jews killed God's son is a recurrent motif in Arab cartoons. It is borrowed from Christian culture, since Jesus in Islam is not God's son but a prophet. The Jordanian Jihad Awrtani combines two anti-Semitic motifs by drawing a bleeding Arab crucified on a cross made of the letter T from "Holocaust."

A second cartoon of his invokes another Christian motif, showing a nail inscribed with the word Holocaust piercing a vein in an arm with the blood spurting.

Hou Xiao Qiang of China draws a white dove crucified on a Star of David against a black background.

Abdolhossein Amirzadeh of Iran demonizes Jews by showing a horned devil with vampire fingers reading from a book on which "Holocaust" is written. Next to him is a staff in the form of a seven-branched candelabra topped by a Star of David.

Blood Libel, Infanticide, and Zoomorphism

Several caricatures direct the ancient anti-Semitic blood libel at Israel. Sadic Pala of India depicts a stylized ultra-Orthodox Jew with sidelocks, vampire teeth, and a Star of David on his lapel sucking blood from an infusion bag, which says "Palestinian blood."

Another related anti-Semitic motif is that Jews need to kill children. One of the cartoons submitted by Latuff shows a can of gasoline with a Star of David on it being poured on a burning Arab child.

Another widespread anti-Semitic motif is that Jews are subhuman and thus should be depicted as animals. The Iranian Mehdi Sadeghi drew a beetle with a Star of David on its back pushing along a giant ball of excrement with a swastika on it. It is a new variation on the Nazi motif of showing the Jews as vermin.

The zoomorphism theme also appears in a cartoon by Pala that portrays a religious Jew with vampire teeth next to a vampire bat hanging from a branch above the Al-Aksa Mosque.

Another cartoon by the Syrian Nedal Ali Deep shows a Jew as a dog with vampire teeth on a leash held by an American hand, with the globe giving the dog Palestine in the form of a piece of meat. Kotek's research on cartoons has shown that only Jews are depicted as vampires.²⁰

Controlling and Corrupting the World, Not Wanting Peace

Yet another classic anti-Semitic motif is that Jews attempt to control the world. Cartoonist Deep shows America looking through a telescope, with the word Holocaust on it, at the back of an ultra-Orthodox Jew holding the world in his hand. Khaldoun Gharaibeh of Jordan turns the "L" of Israel into a boot that squashes the globe. The same caricaturist shows an ultra-Orthodox Jew holding the world on a leash.

Another cartoon by Deep shows, with the caption "Help for the Palestinians," how American financial aid is thrown into a bottle with a Star of David on it.

Another recurrent motif is that Israel does not want peace. For instance, Chang An Yong of China drew a dove chained within a Star of David.

Although the Holocaust-cartoon competition was not directly linked to the Ahmadinejad national government, the fact that, as noted earlier, it was sponsored by a paper owned by the Tehran municipality further illustrates how various branches of the government support distortion and manipulation.

III. The Tehran Holocaust Conference

The December 2006 Holocaust conference in Tehran mainly assembled a variety of Holocaust deniers and minimizers. A list of participants was published by the Israeli Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center at the Center for Special Studies.²¹

Among those attending were the German-born Fredrick Toben²²-who has been jailed there-and Michele Renouf, both from Australia, Frenchman Georges Theil,²³ Veronica Clark from the United States, and the Canadian Shiraz Dossa, professor of political science at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia.²⁴ Among the better known were the retired French literature professor Robert Faurisson²⁵ and former American Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke. As was widely reported in the Arab world, some extreme ultra-Orthodox Jews of the Neturei Karta sect also attended.²⁶

The Iranian Foreign Ministry announced that "intellectuals" and "researchers" from thirty countries attended the event. Literature handed out at the conference described the Holocaust as "one of the most important propaganda tools to politically justify the support for the Jewish people in the 20th century."²⁷

Most meetings during the conference were closed ones. Ahmadinejad, who was one of the speakers, said among other things: "Just as the Soviet Union was wiped out and today does not exist, so will the Zionist regime soon be wiped out."²⁸

It was announced at the conference that a "new world foundation for Holocaust studies" would be established. Iranian presidential adviser Mohammad Ali Ramin was appointed its secretary-general. He had said about the Jews in May 2006: "Throughout history, this religious group has inflicted the most damage on the human race."²⁹ A few weeks later he indicated the future direction of Iranian Holocaust manipulation when he said Hitler was the son of a Jewish prostitute and his policies aimed at establishing a Jewish state.³⁰

International Reactions

The Tehran conference was widely condemned in the West. A statement by White House press secretary Tony Snow "noted the meeting coincided with International Human Rights Week, which renews the pledges of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights drafted in the wake of World War II atrocities."³¹

French president Jacques Chirac ordered Justice Minister Pascal Clement to carry out an investigation of statements made by Faurisson at a press conference in Tehran. Clement asked Paris prosecutors whether Faurisson could be prosecuted under a 1990 French law making it a crime to deny the Holocaust.³²

The incoming United Nations secretary-general Ban Ki-Moon stated: "Denying historical facts especially on such an important subject as the Holocaust is just not acceptable." He weakened his condemnation by adding: "Whenever and when the situation requires me to do so, I am prepared to engage in dialogue with the Iranian people." Moon left open the possibility of a visit to Tehran.³³

After the Tehran conference, forty European and North American research institutes declared that they would suspend contacts with IPIS. Francois Heisbourg, chairman of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London and president of the Geneva Center for Security Policy, announced this decision. Other signatories of the statement included John J. Hamre, head of the Center for Strategic and International

Studies in Washington, Volker Perthes, director of Berlin's Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Tomas Ries, director of the Swedish Institute for International Affairs, Eugeniusz Smolnar, director of the Center for International Relations in Warsaw, and Thierry de Montbrial, director of the French Institute of International relations. The European and North American institutes will refuse to participate in IPIS meetings and will not invite its staff to their conferences.³⁴

Emory University in Atlanta announced that it was planning an enhanced website that would make information on the Holocaust available in Farsi, Arabic, Russian, and other languages. Prof. Deborah Lipstadt, an expert on Holocaust denial, said the site would provide resources to people who cannot find information on the Holocaust in these languages.³⁵

In January 2007, Germany proposed that European Union member states adopt a uniform law to make Holocaust denial a criminal offense. That same month Italy adopted such a law, which already existed in a number of EU countries including Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Poland, and Spain. It is yet unclear how far-reaching such a law, if adopted, would be. On 26 January 2007—one day before the UN's International Day of Commemoration in memory of victims of the Holocaust—the 192-member UN General Assembly approved a resolution by consensus, introduced by the United States. It condemned "without any reservation any denial of the Holocaust." It did not mention any country. Iran reacted by stating that the Holocaust should be examined to determine its scope. The delegate from Venezuela, while accepting the resolution, distorted the Holocaust by saying that Israel's "excesses under the pretext of legitimate defense has led to a new holocaust against the Palestinian people."³⁶

Media Reactions

Many Western media also condemned the conference and in news reports from Tehran described the attendants as fringe people with extremist views. An article in the **Los Angeles Times** discussed in detail the Muslim collaboration with Nazis during the Holocaust in Palestine, Tunisia, and Bosnia.³⁷

Some major media reported differently. Tamar Sternthal, the Israeli representative of the CAMERA media-watch organization, discussed a news story by Nazila Fathi in the **International Herald Tribune** that "granted [the conference discussion] the same legitimacy and credibility as what Fathi terms 'the accepted version of events' surrounding the Nazi genocide of Jews. At no point in the article does Fathi state as fact that millions of Jews were murdered by the Nazis, and that those who claim otherwise are liars." The **New York Times** ran the same article but edited it to mention the facts of the Holocaust. Sternthal compared the two articles in some detail.³⁸

An editorial on the conference in **The Guardian** took the opportunity to slip in its extreme pro-Palestinian bias. Although condemning Iran, **The Guardian** asserted: "it is legitimate to question the tenets of Zionism and fair to see Palestinians as its victims. Suggesting that Auschwitz was a 'big lie' concocted to serve Jewish interests is not."³⁹

This is standard fare for this paper, which did not mention that the Palestinians are primarily the victims of their own murderous proclivities that have permeated their society since well before World War II, motivating them to take part in a failed genocidal war against Israel in 1948. After 1967 they refused for twenty-five years to negotiate for a Palestinian state that they could have had in 1948 without a single shot.

Guardian caricaturist Steve Bell drew Prime Minister Tony Blair sitting in a pile of excrement and holding his nose while pointing a finger toward Ahmadinejad sitting in a similar pile. The cartoon implies moral equivalence between the two.⁴⁰

Widespread Denial in the Arab World

Historical revisionism and Holocaust denial have been widely disseminated in the Arab world for many years. Goetz Nordbruch, who has researched this subject, observes: "Well-documented studies have shown that Holocaust denial can be found in the majority of Arabic newspapers, but detailed surveys of the social and historical background of this

phenomenon are still missing."⁴¹ Arab authors often describe the Holocaust as a "historical myth" that enabled the establishment of Israel. Their aim is to deconstruct the Holocaust, since they believe that such distortions also remove the historical basis for Israel's existence.

British historian David Cesarani noted that: "in 1964 Gamal Abdul Nasser, president of Egypt, told a West German newspaper that he opposed 'the lie of the six million.'" Cesarani added: "The Zayed Centre, associated with the Arab League, held a Holocaust denial symposium in Abu Dhabi in 2002."⁴² Mohammed Mahdi Akef, leader of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, is yet another Arab politician who has denied the Holocaust.⁴³

Mahmoud Abbas (also known as Abu Mazen), president of the Palestinian Authority, is a Holocaust denier as well. His 1982 doctoral dissertation at the Oriental College in Moscow discussed "the secret ties between the Nazis and the Zionist Movement leadership." In his study in Arabic based on this dissertation that was published in Amman in 1984, Abbas adduced well-known Holocaust deniers, raised doubts that gas chambers were used to exterminate Jews, and claimed that the number of Jews murdered in the Holocaust might be "even less than a million." Abbas also wrote that the Zionists believed in the purity of the Jewish race as Hitler believed in the purity of the Aryan race.⁴⁴

Muslim Reactions

After the Tehran gathering, another Holocaust-denial conference, "The Holocaust Lie," was held in Cairo on 27 December. It was convened by the Arab Socialist party. One speaker was Waheed al-Uksory, who had been this party's candidate in the most recent presidential elections.⁴⁵

The limited number of Muslim reactions to the Holocaust conference included some condemnations. Some commentators noted the absurdity of a conference in Tehran supposedly promoting freedom of speech on the Holocaust, since there is no such freedom on many other matters in Iran.⁴⁶

Among those condemning the conference were the sheikhs of the Islamic Movement in Israel.⁴⁷ Attorney Khaled Mahamid, an Israeli Arab from Nazareth who founded a Holocaust museum and wanted to attend the conference to confront the deniers, was denied a visa by the organizers.⁴⁸

The Anti-Defamation League praised the existence of an Arab museum in Israel commemorating the Holocaust but was very critical of some of its messages:

The Anti-Defamation League is deeply concerned that founder and curator Khaled Mahamid has based certain elements of his Arab Institute for Holocaust Research and Education museum on the false premise that the Palestinian people are paying the price for European guilt over the Holocaust by having what they believe is an illegitimate Jewish state in the heart of the Arab world.

By placing the PLO flag at the museum as well as posters of Palestinian refugees and photos of Palestinian victims of violence juxtaposed next to Jewish victims of the Holocaust, Mr. Mahamid also seeks to create a totally inappropriate connection between the plight of the Palestinians and the Jewish Holocaust victims. This approach undoes much of the benefit the museum could have.⁴⁹ **Ayaan Hirsi Ali**

The situation in the Muslim world with respect to Holocaust history was well summed up by secular Muslim Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a former Dutch liberal parliamentarian now living in the United States. She wrote in reaction to the conference:

As a child growing up in Saudi Arabia, I remember my teachers, my mom and our neighbors telling us practically on a daily basis that Jews are evil, the sworn enemies of Muslims, and that their only goal was to destroy Islam. We were never informed about the Holocaust.

Later, as a teenager in Kenya, when Saudi and other Persian Gulf philanthropy reached us, I remember that the building of mosques and donations to hospitals and the poor went hand in hand with the cursing of Jews. Jews were said to be responsible for the deaths of babies and for epidemics such as AIDS, and they were believed to be the cause of wars.

They were greedy and would do absolutely anything to kill us Muslims.

Hirsi Ali added:

What's striking about Ahmadinejad's conference is the (silent) acquiescence of mainstream Muslims. I cannot help but wonder: Why is there no counter-conference in Riyadh, Cairo, Lahore, Khartoum or Jakarta condemning Ahmadinejad? Why are the 57 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference silent on this?

Could the answer be as simple as it is horrifying: For generations the leaders of these so-called Muslim countries have been spoon-feeding their populations a constant diet of propaganda similar to the one that generations of Germans (and other Europeans) were fed—that Jews are vermin and should be dealt with as such? In Europe the logical conclusion was the Holocaust. If Ahmadinejad had his way, he should not want for compliant Muslims ready to act on his wish.⁵⁰

Israeli and Jewish Reactions

There were many Israeli and Jewish condemnations of the conference. Knesset speaker Dalia Itzik sent a letter to 145 parliaments asking them to "send a clear and urgent message that such behavior can no longer be tolerated by the family of nations." Foreign Minister Tzippi Livni asserted: "The Iranian problem is not just a problem for the State of Israel, it's a problem for anyone who values democracy and the free world."⁵¹

Yosef Lapid, a former Israeli justice minister and currently chairman of the Yad Vashem Council, said the conference was an attempt "to pave the way psychologically" for the Western world that another Holocaust is possible. He added that Ahmadinejad was following in the footsteps of Joseph Goebbels, whose propaganda turned the Jews into parasites deserving to be murdered.⁵²

In ultra-Orthodox circles there was much criticism of the Neturei Karta representatives who attended the conference. It was stressed that they were outcasts in the ultra-Orthodox community and did not have the support of any important rabbi. Some called them "deranged." Also various groups of the extremist Satmar Hasidim publicly condemned the Neturei Karta participants.⁵³

IV. The Future

There is some speculation about how denial and distortion of the Holocaust fit Ahmadinejad's political agenda. A number of aims seem to intermingle.

The first is that he believes the veracity of the Holocaust can be undermined. Ahmadinejad and his associates think the Holocaust is the sole moral justification for Israel's existence. Hence, raising doubt about it is an important step toward justifying a future attempt to destroy the country when Iran obtains nuclear weapons.

A second likely aim of the Iranian president is to enhance his standing in the Muslim world, which is so widely permeated with lies about the Holocaust. This may boost his position at a time when Ahmadinejad's popularity at home is declining, as reflected in his supporters' losses in the local elections of December 2006. Iranians visiting abroad say that in taxis in Tehran people do not hesitate to criticize the regime. "This even when a person with a beard is present," as one former senior executive put it to this author.

One public instance of criticism came when—at the time of the Holocaust-denial conference—Iranian students heckled Ahmadinejad during a visit to Amir Kabir University at Tehran and burned his picture. There were chants of "Death to the dictator," "Forget America and start thinking about us," as well as a banner: "Fascist president, the polytechnic is not for you."⁵⁴

In January, more than half of Iran's 290 members of parliament signed a letter accusing Ahmadinejad of wasting the country's oil income and stressing that the government should reduce expenditures.⁵⁵ The dissatisfaction with the regime of the ayatollahs and Ahmadinejad, however, does not imply its imminent fall since no structured democratic opposition exists. The best realistic alternative to the current

president is one with the same theocratic outlook but slightly less extreme and apocalyptic.

Ahmadinejad's main rival is former president Hashemi Rafsanjani, who is billed by *The Guardian* and many other media as a "pragmatic conservative."⁵⁶ One might recall that this extremist was the first Iranian president to threaten Israel with annihilation through the use of an atomic bomb.⁵⁷

A third aim of Ahmadinejad is to raise his profile in the anti-American and anti-Western struggle. Denying the Holocaust shows that he has no fear of any taboos. He has visited many countries since he came to power, and outside the West remains persona grata. In his January 2007 trip to Latin America he met the presidents of Venezuela, Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Ecuador.

A fourth objective of Ahmadinejad is to regularly test the West's reactions to his statements about the destruction of Israel and Holocaust distortion. The fact that the reactions remain verbal may well indicate to him that not much will happen, either, if Iran goes ahead with nuclear armament.

Ahmadinejad is likely to continue calling for genocide against Israel and manipulating the Holocaust. His emphasis may vary according to what he considers the needs of the situation.

Ahmadinejad and his followers are driven by an apocalyptic vision of Islam that considers hate propaganda, violence, destruction, murder, and even genocide permissible tools to achieve their aims. The West nowadays is unfamiliar with such large-scale governmental and ideological fanaticism. Its leaders and peoples will have to make much greater efforts to comprehend the nature and methods of this religious totalitarianism.

Otherwise it will remain difficult to develop effective counteractions.

* * *

Notes

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Dr. Manfred Gerstenfeld is chairman of the Board of Fellows of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs. He is an international business strategist who has been a consultant to governments, international agencies, and boards of some of the world's largest corporations. Among the ten books he has authored are Europe's Crumbling Myths: The Post-Holocaust Origins of Today's Anti-Semitism (JCPA, Yad Vashem, WJC, 2003) and European-Israeli Relations: Between Confusion and Change? (JCPA and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 2006). This year *Academics against Israel and the Jews*, of which he is the editor, will be published.

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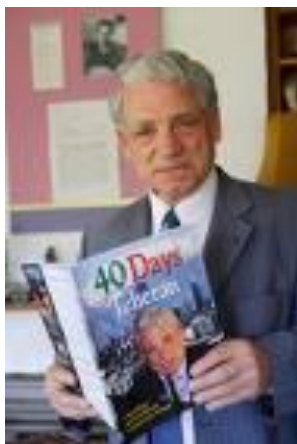
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No case for Töben

November 1, 2012 by J-Wire Staff

A defamation case brought by Holocaust denier Fredrick Töben against community leader Jeremy Jones has been struck out in the Federal Court.



Fredrick Töben

Judge David Yates yesterday handed down his decision from the hearing heard in the Federal Court in Sydney on August 1.

He ordered that the application and statement of claim be struck out and the proceeding be stayed permanently.

The judge ordered Adelaide-based Töben to pay Jeremy Jones's costs.

Töben had brought the case against Jones, who is a past president of The Executive Council of Australian Jewry on grounds that he had been defamed. The offending article was claimed to have stated that Töben is an anti-Semite who had said that the influence of the Talmud was pervasive.

In his judgement, Justice Yates said that the "commencement of this proceeding is an abuse of the Court's process".



Jeremy Jones

He found that the pleading of the statement of claim is deficient in a number of respects. He added: "Those deficiencies are not overcome by the amendments that the applicant has proposed. The originating application and statement of claim should be struck out."

A member of Jones's legal team told J-Wire: "Töben cannot start new proceedings against Jeremy Jones on the same grounds."

The article referred to appeared in the *Australia/Israel Review* in 2009. Earlier this year, Töben started proceedings in the Federal Court against Jeremy for defamation and for damages for alleged breach of the

Competition and Consumer Act (the Trade Practices Act).

Töben was declared bankrupt in September this year following his failure to pay costs on separate contempt proceedings.

<http://www.jwire.com.au/news/no-case-for-toben/29314>

...the battle has become a war that I, of necessity, must lose, so it seems. If I hit back it's an abuse of process ... must be because my views are abhorrent, never mind defending the ideals of free expression and the search for truth! The list is long – from 31 October 2012 back to 2000 and starting in 1996...

Fredrick Töben

[1. *Toben v Jones* \[2012\] FCA 1193 \(31 October 2012\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 31 October 2012; 68 KB) 

[2. *Toben v Jones* \[2012\] FCA 444 \(3 May 2012\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 3 May 2012; 28 KB) 

[3. *Toben v Jones \(No 3\)* \[2011\] FCA 767 \(8 July 2011\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 8 July 2011; 28 KB) ★

[4. *Toben v Jones* \[2009\] FCAFC 104 \(13 August 2009\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia - Full Court](#); 13 August 2009; 43 KB) ★

[5. *Jones v Toben \(No 2\)* \[2009\] FCA 477 \(13 May 2009\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 13 May 2009; 63 KB) ★

[6. *Toben v Jones \(No 2\)* \[2009\] FCA 807 \(30 July 2009\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 30 July 2009; 10 KB) 

[7. *Töben v Jones* \[2009\] FCA 585 \(2 June 2009\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 2 June 2009; 21 KB) 


[8. *Jones v Toben \(Corrigendum dated 20 April 2009\)*](#)

[\[2009\] FCA 354 \(16 April 2009\)](#)
(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 16 April 2009; 253 KB) ★

[9. *Toben v Jones* \[2003\] FCAFC 137 \(27 June 2003\)](#)

(From [Federal Court of Australia - Full Court](#); 27 June 2003; 186 KB) ★

[10. *Jones v Toben \(includes explanatory memorandum\)*](#)

[\[2002\] FCA 1150 \(17 September 2002\)](#)
(From [Federal Court of Australia](#); 17 September 2002; 122 KB) ★

[11. *Toben v Jones* \[2002\] FCAFC 158 \(21 May 2002\)](#)

[100%]
(From [Federal Court of Australia - Full Court](#); 21 May 2002; 16 KB) 

[12. *Jones v Toben* \[2000\] HREOCA 39 \(5 October 2000\)](#)

(From [Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission](#); 5 October 2000; 91 KB) 